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HAMILTON IN THE WAR OF '98.





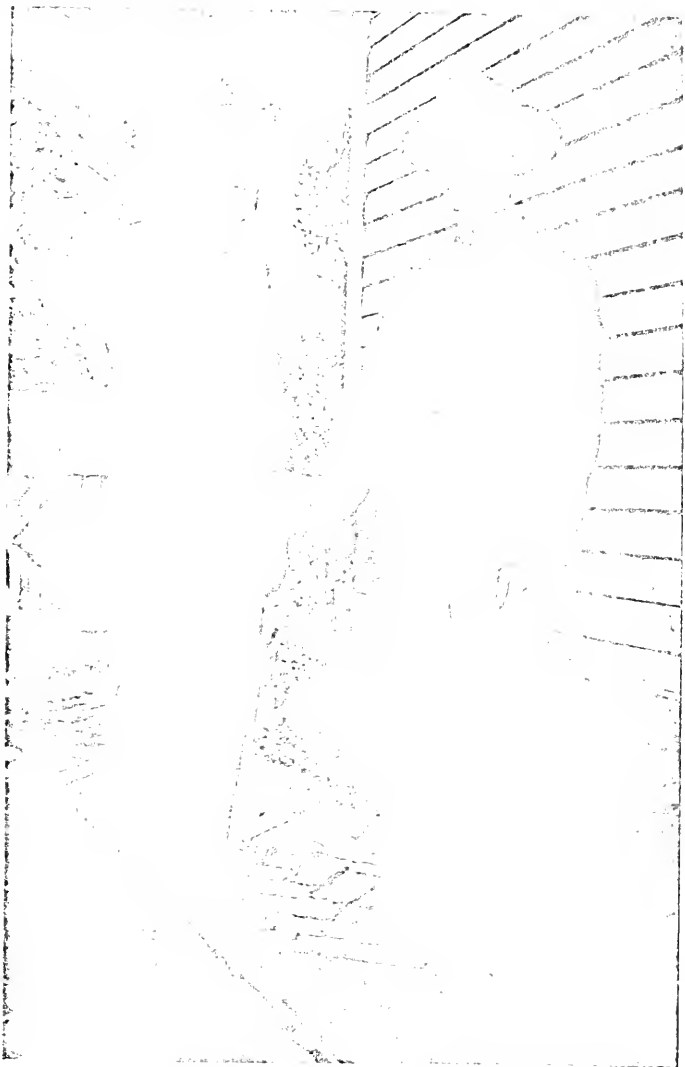


PHOTO BY MORRIS AND L. S. ALPER

Jacob Day, 22nd O. V. L.  
Formerly in 13th Missouri.

Wm. Conlin, 6th U. S. I.

61 GREETINGS 98



KARL W. HEISER

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HAMILTON  
IN THE WAR OF '98

KARL W. HEISER

A COMPLETE HISTORY  
OF HAMILTON IN THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

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ILLUSTRATED

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THE REPUBLICAN PUBLISHING COMPANY  
HAMILTON, OHIO  
1899

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PRESS OF  
THE REPUBLICAN PUBLISHING COMPANY  
HAMILTON, OHIO



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ROSTER  
OF COMPANY E, FIRST REGIMENT, OHIO VOLUNTEER  
INFANTRY.

*Regimental and Battalion Officers.*

Colonel, C. B. Hunt.  
Lieutenant Colonel, Paul M. Millikin.  
Regimental Adjutant, Russel P. Reeder.  
Regimental Quarter Master, George Hoff.  
Regimental Surgeon, H. E. Twitchell.  
Chaplain, Rev. Howard Henderson.  
Hospital Steward, Frank Auezanue.  
Regimental Sergeant Major, Chas. Eckert.  
Regimental Quarter Master Sergeant, Frank Weyler.

FIRST BATTALION.

Major, Thomas W. Thomas.  
Adjutant, Andrew Diehl.  
Sergeant Major, Harry Chadwick.

SECOND BATTALION.

Major, S. W. Kennedy.  
Adjutant, Adolph Diehl.  
Sergeant Major, Chas. Redfield.

THIRD BATTALION.

Major, John Proctor.  
Adjutant, Harry Terrell.



# COMPANY E.

## *Commissioned Officers.*

Captain, A. W. Margedant.  
 First Lieutenant, Geo. Ayers; resigned July 18, 1898.  
 First Lieutenant, Oliver P. Branch.  
 Second Lieutenant, Chas. A. Cox.

## *Non-Commissioned Officers.*

First Sergeant, Arthur W. Sims.  
 Q. M. Sergeant, Jacob M. Roll.  
 Sergeant, Thos. R. Carroll.  
 Sergeant, Chas. E. Ross.  
 Sergeant, Linus H. French.  
 Musician, Albert P. Elkins.  
 Musician, Amasa McDonald.  
 Wagoner, Allen Cornelius.  
 Artificer, Chas. E. Castator.

## CORPORALS—APPOINTED APRIL 26, 1893.

Elmer Davis.	Fred Gerhard.
George Howard.	Theodore Young.
Raymond Henninger, re-enlisted in 6th U. S. I.	

## CORPORALS—APPOINTED AUG. 14, 1893.

Frank Buckner.	Leslie Jones.
Otto A. Kinzer.	Chas. Letsche.
Walter O'Brian, died Oct. 27, 1898.	Frank Walter.
Frank Cook, re-enlisted in 1st U. S. I.	

## PRIVATEES AND DATES OF ENLISTMENT.

Theodore Allen, April 26.	Arthur C. Bernard, April 26.
Wm. H. Alwine, Aug. 8.	Chas. B. Berry, April 26.
Rollo R. Anderson, April 26.	Peter L. Berry, April 26.
Daniel Bantham, April 26.	John Biskop, June 22.
Abraham H. Barnes, April 26.	Theodore Bock, July 29.
Earle Beaver, June 24.	John Bogaske, April 26.
Abner Bennett, Aug. 2.	Chas. Booth, June 22.
Chas. A. Bennett, June 23.	Jesse E. Boster, July 30.



- Anazie Brown, April 26.  
 Edward Buell, April 26.  
 Joseph Butcher, June 22.  
 James Cawley, April 26.  
 John G. De Camp, July 29.  
 Joseph J. Doran, July 28.  
 Henry A. Dully, April 26.  
 Wm H. Dunbar, April 26.  
 John S. Durkin, April 26, re-en-  
   listed in Hospital Corps about  
   Dec. 1, 1871, and sent to Cuba.  
 Chas. Eckenroth, June 24.  
 Arthur Elkins, April 26.  
 Julius Enzier, April 26.  
 Chas. V. Garley, April 26.  
 Philip W. Gahaond, June 24.  
 Wm. M. Golden, July 1.  
 Augustus R. Hammeritz, July 29.  
 Edward Horrah, April 26.  
 Wm. J. Harman, April 26.  
 Elmer G. Harvey, April 26.  
 Anthony A. Hicks, Aug. 8.  
 Burdette Hill, June 27.  
 Chas. Hids, June 22.  
 Wm. T. Holmes, Aug. 9.  
 Samuel W. Houston, July 28.  
 Wm. Hymen, April 26.  
 John Jones, April 26.  
 Wm. C. King, April 26.  
 Thomas Kinney, July 29.  
 Alb. F. Klayser, Apr. 26, dis. June 9.  
 Rudolph Knodler, June 22.  
 Michael J. Kohn, June 22.  
 John Kurtz, April 26.  
 John Lambertson, April 26.  
 Harry Lancaster, April 26.  
 Hugh Leroy, Aug. 11.  
 Jas. D. Littlejohn, April 26.  
 Wilson Manifold, April 26.  
 Jesse H. Marshall, April 26.  
 Thos. McCulloch, April 26, dis-  
   charged June 14.  
 Geo. Newberry, July 28.  
 Leroy Ogg, June 23.  
 Joseph Obr, June 22.  
 Wm. C. O'Keefe, April 26.  
 Samuel Orr, July 29.  
 Wm. Reynolds, Apr. 26, died Aug. 5.  
 Fred Schwenk, April 26.  
 Wm. Shotwell, July 29.  
 Mark Smith, Aug. 8.  
 John Snid, r, June 12.  
 Harry J. Sommers, April 26.  
 Henry Spenner, April 26, re en-  
   listed in 2nd U. S. I.  
 Matthias Stark, June 22.  
 Thomas Stone, April 26.  
 Stephen R. Stubbs, July 29.  
 Fred Suttin, July 27.  
 John Thompson, April 26.  
 Floyd Thurman, July 30.  
 Wm. N. Trone, Aug. 8.  
 John Vinson, July 29.  
 Geo. Waltner, June 24.  
 Frank Wellinghoff, April 26.  
 Joseph Werbel, April 26.  
 Wm. Whitacre, July 30.  
 Roddy White, Aug. 8.  
 Daniel Wilcox, April 26.  
 Fred R. Wilson, April 26.



## CHAPTER I.

### HAMILTON SENDS HER QUOTA.



APRIL 26, 1898, will always be a great and memorable day in the history of Hamilton. It was a day never to be forgotten, when Company E, amid stirring scenes, tumultuous cheers, and silent tears, departed from the city in willing response to the Nation's call for defenders.

War against Spain had been declared. The national troops had been called and, soon afterward, the Guards from the various states. Company E, of the Ohio National Guards, awaited the call with impatience. Other troops from all quarters were going. When would come the turn of Company E?

The long expected call did come at last. The day April 24th brought dread and anxiety to Hamilton homes: but to the boys of Company E, it brought satisfaction and relief. The armory at Music Hall was converted, as if by magic, into a military camp where field discipline





## *Hamilton in the War of '98.*

reigned and the soldier slept in their blankets. Recruiting had already been going on in anticipation of a call. The Company had been put on a war footing, arms and accoutrements were burnished, knapsacks and canteens were dealt out and, during all the excitement of getting ready, war was the sole topic of conversation. During the daytime the men talked excitedly of great battles and, when night came, lay down to dream of flying shells and bleeding Spaniards.

On the night after the call to arms, the order came from Colonel C. B. Hunt to report at the O. N. G. Armory in Cincinnati the next day by 6 p. m. Captain A. W. Margelant, the commander of the company, received no intimation of any further movements. He allowed the men to spend that night in their homes. There was little sleep for them or for their anxious households. Parents thought, with dread, of the separation on the morrow, while their sons, though loath to leave family and friends, dreamed of the glories of war.

Day came at last. The colors of the flag were unfurled about the city and old and young remembered, with one mind and one heart, the soldiers who were called this day for the war. Grim and determined, those heroic men were lined up in Music Hall, while mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, wives and sweethearts, kinsfolk and friends gazed in mute farewell or weeping agony on the faces of those they loved and might never be allowed



THE FAREWELL DEMONSTRATION COMPANY E PASSING ALONG HIGH STREET

PHOTO BY J. J. RICHARDS



to look upon again. There were tears in eyes that had never known weeping before. Little tots of five and six years clutched tightly the skirts of their mother's dresses and with some understanding of the meaning of it all, let fall innocent tears of sympathy.

A grand sight it was then, when the order was given to march, and the company filed out into the street and began its memorable march to the depot. The Grand Marshal of the parade, Captain W. C. Murgedant, had appointed the following officers and aids:

Adjutant General, S. L. Rose.

Chief of Staff, R. C. McKinney.

Color Bearer, Carl R. Murgedant.

Aids: First Ward—Captain Phil Rothenbush, W. L. Tobey, Abe Rathwell, Charles Parrish, J. P. Davis.

Second Ward—Colonel James E. Nead, M. O. Burns, Homer Peters, W. M. Dingfelder, Chris. Pabst.

Third Ward—Ernest Ruder, Peter Benninghofen, James Cullen, Dr. James Overpeck, S. D. Pitton.

Fourth Ward—Ex Governor James E. Campbell, J. J. Pater, H. P. Deuser, Dr. Eugene Griffiths.

Fifth Ward—Major Fred Bender, Adam Bentschler, Hon. H. L. Moley, John Helvey, Charles H. Heiser, George W. Stace.

Preceding the soldiers went another body of brave men,—men who knew what war meant,—the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic.



President of the Board of Education, Martin Mason, had ordered the public schools dismissed for the day, and long lines of school children, waving flags, and with their teachers marching as captains, followed the soldiers. Many of the young boys had formed mimic companies and, with fife and drum, carried themselves as proudly as the soldiers. That day had its lesson for the school children—a lesson of valor and patriotism which they will never forget.

The line of march was from the Armory up Second street to Ludlow, east on Ludlow to Fourth, north on Fourth to High, west on High to Main, and thence returning to the C., H. & D. depot. The procession, as it passed along the streets, drew thousands upon thousands of people out for a last look at the brave boys going off to war.

Many of the shops and stores closed down and their thousands of employees were added to the throngs along the line of march. As the boys of Company E passed by, they were cheered to the echo. Women waved their handkerchiefs, flowers were thrown, and every heart beat fast at the sight of this splendid array of young manhood going forth to battle for the flag.

At the depot the soldiers boarded the train in waiting. Captain Margedant stood on the front platform, bowing and smiling, receiving bouquets and giving them away as souvenirs, while his men leaned out of the car win-





dows, waving flags and grasping the hands extended up to them. At 11:15 the locomotive gave a warning shriek, the big driving wheels began to turn and, with constantly accelerating speed, the train moved away from the depot.

And then, 'mid the shriek of whistles, the clangor of bells, the waving of Old Glory, the cheers of ten thousand voices and the benediction of every patriotic heart, the boys of Company B left the city and were off to the war. They arrived at Cincinnati about noon and marched straight to the O. N. G. Armory, which had been made the rendezvous for the entire First Regiment.

At the armory all was bustle and confusion. Everything was being packed and made ready to be moved. Visitors sat about in the dust and dirt, bidding the boys good-bye for the twentieth time. It was generally known that the troops were going to Columbus; but after Columbus, where? No one knew. So the men spent one day and then two days waiting anxiously the order to move. On the morning of the second day, which was Friday, April 28th, the First Regiment, under Colonel Hunt, started over the Big Four for Columbus. Arriving at Columbus, they found troops from the various parts of the state already there. Camp Bushnell, named for Ohio's gallant Governor, was beginning to assume the wonted aspect of a military camp. The tents pitched and the camp established, routine drill and the usual guard duties were adopted. The monotony, for such it soon



became, was relieved on Sundays by many Hamilton visitors in camp.

Finally, after a week or more of blind guesses as to the next move, the First Regiment, O. N. G., was mustered into the service of the United States. In a driving rain, with heads uncovered and hands uplifted, the men took the solemn oath, pledging their service and, if need be, their lives to their country. The Guards were given leave of absence and after that became known as Ohio Volunteers. Company E was mustered in seventy-two strong. All the officers were accepted, but there were several privates who had to return home on account of physical disability and for other reasons.

It was a coincidence that the First Ohio Regiment was the first to arrive at Columbus, the first to be mustered in, and was a part of the First Brigade, First Division, First Army Corps. Who could say but that it might also be "first in war?"

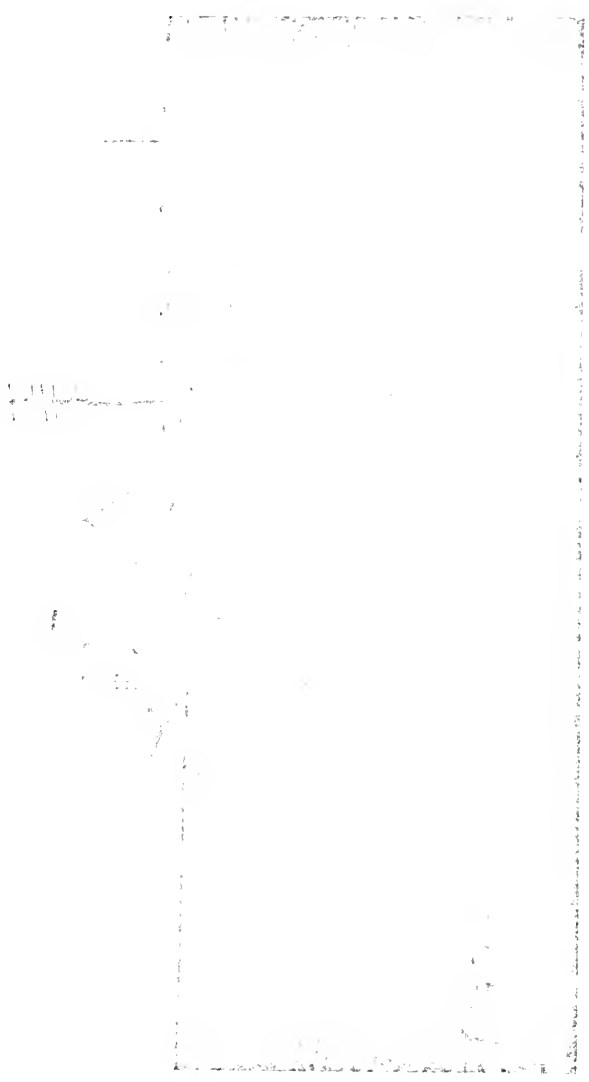
Dr. H. E. Twitchell, of Hamilton, who had been made assistant surgeon of the regiment, left for Columbus on the 28th and was with the home boys from the first.

There was quite a commotion in camp at Columbus when the news flew from company to company that the First Regiment had orders to leave for Chattanooga. At Chattanooga, on the battle-field of Chickamauga, made famous during the Civil War, was located one of the three



PHOTO BY J. J. RICHARDSON

AT THE C. H. & D. STATION—COMPANY B LEAVING THE CITY.





great centering points of the American Army. There the troops were drilled and prepared for service, ready to be dispatched, at a moment's notice, wherever needed.

Rush orders were received at noon Saturday, May 16th. The regiment was to be ready to move at 5 p. m. Camp was broken with alacrity and the boys prepared to bid good-bye to Camp Bushnell and the disappointed troops who were to be left behind. It was 8 o'clock before the last lingering look had been cast at the deserted camp ground and, midnight, or after, before the troops left Columbus. As the elated soldiers passed through the streets of the city, a rousing send-off was given them by the patriotic citizens. They met with similar demonstrations all along the route. The journey was slow and wearisome and it was a tired lot of soldiers that arrived at Chattanooga late the following night. The boys caught a wink or two of sleep on the train that night and the next morning, bright and early, the march to the new camp was begun.





## CHAPTER II.

### CAMP LIFE AT CHICKAMAUGA.



CAMP George H. Thomas, named after the famous general of the Civil War, lay on sacred ground. It was the site of one of the most bloody engagements of the Civil War, the battle of Chickamauga, fought on September 19 and 20, 1863. It is now laid off into a park twelve miles square and includes some of the prettiest scenery to be found anywhere. The ground, which is gently rolling, is dotted all over with monuments erected by the states to mark the lines of their troops in '63. Rusty cannon, silent reminders of the past, are stationed here and there, some of them unhorsed and off their timbers.

The First Regiment was camped on the ground where the fighting had been thickest. It was near the place where the troops of General Ferd Van Derveer, Hamilton's gallant soldier in the Civil War, had fought so bravely. The soldiers picked up bullets, pieces of shells,



and other relics of the battle-field. Amid such surroundings the patriotism of the soldiers fairly bubbled over. Soldiers from the North and the South were now encamped here together. It was their camp-ground in common. The sons and the grandsons of the blue and the gray, who fought and bled here in '63, were rallying under the same flag now and all the old wounds were bound in the ties of patriotism and brotherhood.

Every few days a new regiment of soldiers arrived with bands playing and colors flying, so that Chickamauga soon came to be a tented city of nearly forty thousand inhabitants. With the concentrating of this vast number of troops, many business-like individuals, with an eye for personal profit, established their headquarters near camp. One of these unique institutions was the town of Lytle, Georgia. Like Jonah's gourd, it came into existence almost in a night. Before the concentration of troops at Camp George H. Thomas, two miles away, there was no such place in existence; but it soon became a lively town of several thousand inhabitants, who thrived from the trade of the soldiers in camp. It was a sort of Midway Plaisance. Both sides of the streets were lined by booths where nearly everything, from a needle and thread to an apple pie, was sold. Georgia being a prohibition state, no intoxicants could be had. At night, when the booths were lighted up with smoky and flaring oil torches and hundreds of human beings





PHOTO BY H. L. LARSEN AFTER THE BOX OF GOOD THINGS ARRIVED



PHOTO BY H. L. LARSEN IN FRONT OF THE CAPTAIN'S TENT.



throughed the town, a view down one of its streets was quite picturesque.

Camp duty was vigorous, but the boys were soon hardened to the new life. Drill was generally three times a day and there were other manoeuvres besides, so that little time was left in which to contract a case of homesickness. Insomnia was unheard of and as for the hard-tack and bacon, it tasted nearly as good as home fare, though it did make a fellow almost ashamed to look a live hog in the face. "Mess call" generally meant "Soup, soupy, soupy, without a single bean; porky, porky, porky, without a streak of lean."

Harle K. Nutt, a well known Hamilton boy, joined Company C, First Missouri Infantry, and was in camp at Chickamauga at the same time with Company E. He gives the following vivid picture of every day camp life, from "Reveille" to "Taps":

"At 4 a. m. there is no sound in camp except the measured pace of the sentry as he walks his post. At 4:30 the sentry nearest the guard tent calls: "No. 1—Past 4 o'clock and all's well," and the next post takes up the call and then the next, till it has been passed clear around the camp back to the guard tent. Then there is a stir in the cook's quarters. These busy personages have to rise at this time to prepare our morning mess. At 5:30 the first call is sounded preparatory to "Reveille," which sounds at 5:45, and then the cry of "turn out" is





heard all over the camp. Five minutes later the "assembly call" is sounded and each company falls in for roll call. Any one failing to be in line when his name is called is detailed for extra duty in cleaning up the camp. At 6, mess call is sounded and there is a rush to be first in line, as sometimes the grub fails to hold out for those who are late.

"For breakfast we have what in the north is known as "sow bully." This is given out in pieces about 3 inches long,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide, and  $3\frac{1}{8}$  inches thick. Each soldier gets two pieces as he passes before the cook's tent with a tin plate in one hand and a tin cup in the other. In addition to this he gets 3 pieces of hard bread, (or hard tack as it is commonly called,) which are about the size of the well known salt wafers. He is then given about two thirds of a quart of strong coffee and this is our breakfast.

"For dinner we have a change, as we get the "hard tack" first, "pig breast" second and dispense with the coffee and drink water instead.

"At supper we again get coffee and reverse the bill of fare, but not the menu, as we always like a change of diet.

"On extra occasions we get potatoes, or "spuds", beans or tomatoes; but this occurs not more than two or three times per week and is therefore quite a treat. Sometimes we run short and then we fast—not feast—



on hard tack and water, but this has occurred only six times since we have been in camp.

"After morning mess, the boys shake their blankets and clean up around their tents. We have only a limited supply of tents and six of us sleep in a tent which is 8 feet long by 10 feet in width; and as many hands make light work, we are soon at leisure till 7:30, when "Fatigue call" is sounded and then each boy is detailed to carry wood or water for the cook, dig trenches, cellars, wells or to do other work till 8:15, when "Recall" again brings them to their company street.

"At 9:45 "Guard mount" is sounded and a detail of four or five men is marched from each company to the parade ground in front of the Colonel's headquarters where they are inspected (both arms and equipment.) They then pass in review, led by the bugle corps, and march to the guard tent for 24 hours duty. At 10:00, "Assembly" again calls the boys in line for practice drill over hills and hollows, till 11:30, when "Recall" brings us all back to camp again, tired, dusty and hungry, and ready for our noonday mess. After our plates and cups have been washed and put away, we are at leisure till 1:30, when we are again in line for two hours drill, returning at 3:30.

"From 3:30 till 6 (evening mess) we amuse ourselves in various ways —swimming, playing ball, singing, at cards or watching the teamsters break their teams of mules for pulling wagons. I never saw so many differ-



ent kinds of mules anywhere as there are here. They are of all shapes, sizes, and colors, but all seem to agree on one point, and that is their capacity for kicking. They kick with all four feet and bite at the same time. The teamsters call them all by the same name (damn mules) but I don't believe any two look alike.

"After evening mess the "Assembly" brings us in line for evening roll call at 7 and at 7:05 "Retreat" is sounded and we are exempt from detail for the day.

"Nearly every night there is some entertainment given in some company street to which all are invited. Songs, dances, recitations, impersonations or any sort of amusement is then in order till about 8:30 when the musicians strike up a tune and the boys compete in a grand cake walk. The prize is usually an extra large piece of hard tack with perhaps a "spud" for a side dish. At 9 comes the "Call to quarters" and at 9:15 the most beautiful of all calls to the tired soldier, namely, "Taps." This is the signal for lights out and the camp is suddenly transformed from a noisy, candle-lighted picnic ground to a silent, sleeping camp of tired but happy soldiers."

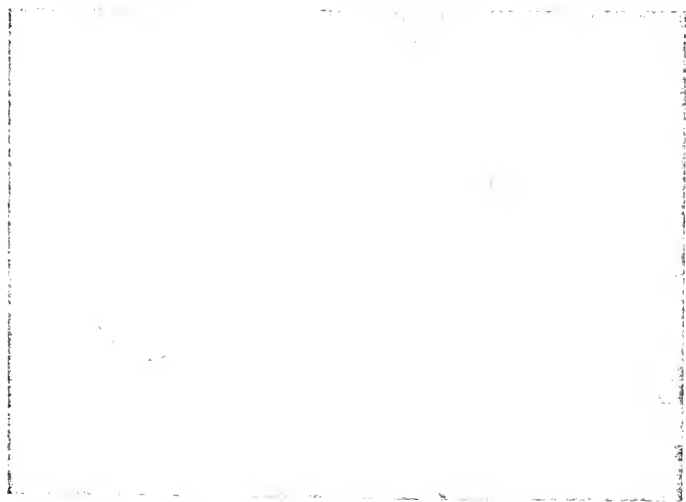
Part of the officers' duty was the making out of requisitions for food, clothing, etc., and thus Captain Margedant and his men were kept busy. There was a scale of weights for each man's daily ration. Enough had to be drawn from the commissary to last ten days and then divided into rations for each day. If it were



LIEUTENANT GEORGE AYERS



CAPTAIN A. W. VIRGILIAN







not done right there would be danger of having to go without food the tenth day.

It was two weeks or more before any fresh meat was supplied to the troops and they had no bread until after the ovens had been built on the grounds. Potatoes, bacon, beans, and coffee were the invariables, with occasional additions of rice and tomatoes.

Private Joseph Werbel, who had had some experience in the art of cooking, was made the Company's permanent cook. A new kitchen outfit was received and "Cook Werbel" succeeded in keeping the culinary department up to the standard. The officers of Companies I and F formed a mess, bought a field stove and cooking utensils and hiring a boy started up house-keeping in style. Rations were purchased from the commissary, but, for all that, there were not many pies or hot mudlus. The soldiers thrived on the plain fare, and the physicians said that Company E had the healthiest lot of men they ever saw.

Memorial Day brought a pleasing deviation from the monotonous routine of camp life. Drills were suspended, religious services were held in a number of regiments, and the day was spent pretty much as the soldiers pleased. On the field of Chickamauga, made sacred by the days of '63, when the blood of the blue and gray flowed together here, what wonder was it that the day was "a time for memory and for tears"?



But the day was not all sad. Four large, suspicious looking boxes arrived in camp for Company E and it did not take long to decide what was in them. Who but the good women of the Auxiliary War League at home could have sent such an array of jellies, jams, and good things of every imaginable description? The boys had a "memorial day" then in a different sense.

That evening was a glad one for the soldiers. Could it be possible that they were to move south, perhaps to Cuba? Such was the news given out that night at "Retreat". This was only Monday night and Thursday morning was the time set for starting. The boys seemed to think it impossible to wait so long. Port Tampa was announced as the destination for the present; but Tampa, in most minds, meant Cuba. At any rate, it was a big step nearer the goal of the soldiers' ambition. When ranks were broken that night a buzz of excitement pervaded camp. The men talked wildly of encounters with the Spanish and their shouts rent the air for miles around.

Amid the shouts and cheers the sweet strains of "Nearer My God To Thee" were heard and all became quiet. Every hat came off when, out on the road, was seen to pass the funeral of a soldier. He was a Pennsylvania trooper and they were bearing him to his long rest on the lonely battle-field, far from home and loved ones. His dust would be mingled with the dust of the heroes of '63, like whom he gave life for country.



The next day was spent preparing to move. During the day came a change of orders. The regiment was to leave Wednesday at 6 a. m. It was good news and lent new vigor to the work of breaking camp. The big tents came down and were packed away in a jiffy; the small shelter tents were put up for the night--the last night in camp at this place.

Next morning "Reveille" sounded shrill and clear. It was a welcome sound this time and the men were up on the instant. After a hurried breakfast the shelter tents were pulled down and, with blankets and pouches, were loaded into the wagons. Every one was active. Officers hurried here and there giving orders, the men talked excitedly as they worked, and the loud-voiced wagoners swore recklessly at their stubborn mules. At seven o'clock all was ready for the march. Each man carried his knapsack, holding all extra clothing and personal belongings and weighing forty or fifty pounds; his haversack with provisions and canteen of water; a gun and a belt with ammunition. Under this load, and still further encumbered by leggins and heavy woolen suits, the men were to march to Ringgold, Georgia, a little place in the wilderness about ten miles south of camp, where a train was to be waiting to carry the troops to Tampa.

There have been few great wars which are not marked by some great march. If this march to Ringgold, Georgia, does not go down in history as one of the



great marches of the Spanish-American War, it will not be because it is undeserving of such distinction. We will give it due attention in this little volume at any rate. The march was begun at 7 a. m. The heat was terrific and the trial seemed almost beyond human endurance. The march may be said to have been a forced one and the officers urged the men on at a lively rate over the first four miles. At this point of the journey a halt was called and the surgeon warned the officers that the march was too fast. After this the boys were not urged on so rapidly but they were already fatigued and suffering from the heat, which seemed to grow more intense as they advanced. Company B, which acted as rear guard to the wagon train and consequently had the hardest part of the march, stood the trial most bravely. Not a man gave up, although the ambulances could not accommodate the men who had dropped out from the other companies. All along the way that great body of men left comrades lying, exhausted, by the roadside. The farther they advanced the fewer there were left to advance. One brave fellow went five miles over that scorching road in his stocking feet.

After fording a small stream they took a road which rose gradually for three miles. Although the grade was not steep it seemed a mountain path to the tired and heavily burdened soldiers. They now dropped out by scores. Some took it with excellent grace, gaily, but





EDUCATION CHAIRMAN

EDUCATION CHAIRMAN



feebly, bidding adieu to those who were pushing on. Others were too exhausted to care for anyone's existence;—least of all their own.

When the march was ended there was hardly a battalion of the First Regiment left. Sergeant Brooks, of Company I, wrote that there were but twelve men left in his company.

There was a small grove near the depot at Ringgold and here the men stacked their arms and sought rest. The citizens of the village set up little booths all over the grove and did a thriving business selling cold drinks to the fatigued soldiers. The scene presented greatly the appearance of a circus. There were fifteen flat cars of wagons and nine cars of horses to be loaded and the work occupied the greater part of the day.

By 5 p. m., when the tourist sleepers began to arrive, all the weary stragglers had resumed their places. The twenty-five cars afforded the men much comfort and by 6 o'clock they were started for what they considered the seat of actual war.

The next morning the train arrived at Macon, Georgia, where the soldiers were supplied with drinking water. Thus refreshed after a good night's rest, the boys found themselves none the worse for the exertions of the day before. They breakfasted at Cordele, Georgia, and then journeyed on through the Empire State of the South for nearly a day.



The whole journey, from the old camp at Chickamauga to the new camp in Florida, was naturally tiresome, but, nevertheless, it was not devoid of interest. Soon after leaving Ringgold the train entered Ringgold Pass, where the northern army had fought and won a hotly contested battle. The mountainous regions of northern Georgia, with the many tunnels and rocky gorges, presented a scene of magnificent grandeur. Kennesaw Mountain was reached just after night-fall. The train passed right around the foot of the mountain, so the boys, as many as were not in the Land of Dreams, were allowed to view it on all sides. It was a beautiful picture, all lit up by the moon just coming up.

At Adairsville, Georgia, the boys were serenaded by a brass band which seemed to know no other tune but "Marching Through Georgia."

As they advanced farther into Georgia the land became more level, with great cotton plantations, pine forests, and lily bedecked lakes. The boys found it interesting to note the rapid change in the wheat fields as they moved southward. Near Ringgold the wheat was hardly ripe, but, before they had reached their destination, they found it ready for the reaper.

Concerning the reception given them in Georgia, one of the men wrote to friends: "At every station crowds of people poured out to bid us Godspeed on our way to war. Ovation after ovation was given the boys in blue



once so hated in this sunny Dixie land; and our grand "Old Glory" was prominently displayed at nearly every town, binding closer the link of affection of our North and South, now united in the common cause of national honor and national pride." At Tifton, Georgia, the boys of Company E were presented with a large supply of books and periodicals, by Mrs. Phoebe Wilson, a former resident of Hamilton.

There was such a sameness in the scenery through Florida that the boys soon grew tired watching it. There seemed to be nothing but sand and pines and pines and sand and the heat grew more and more intense. Some twenty miles beyond the first stopping place in Florida, as they crossed that most famous river ever sang about—"The Suwanee"—the boys sang "Old Folks at Home" as they had never sung it before. When they had sung the old melody before, their thoughts had wandered down into the "Sunny South," about which they knew so little; but now, right in the "Sunny South" and crossing the Suwanee River, they were thinking of their homes in the North, on the Miami River, and of the parents and loved ones there.





## CHAPTER III.

### FEVER AND ILL FORTUNE AT TAMPA.



COMPANY E awoke next morning in Tampa, Florida. The men turned out with alacrity to take a look at the new country. Coffee and sandwiches were passed around and, before the men had finished eating, orders came to leave the train. The last course of breakfast, which was not unlike the others, was finished out on the tracks. After a delay of an hour, the troops boarded the train again and were carried to Port Tampa City, some ten miles farther on. There are three distinct towns: Tampa, Port Tampa, and Port Tampa City. Camp was to be located near the latter. Arriving at Palmetto Beach, the site of the future great military center, it was learned that the baggage train had broken down some distance beyond Tampa, and the tents would not be in before night. Luckily the shelter tents had been brought and these were put up instead.

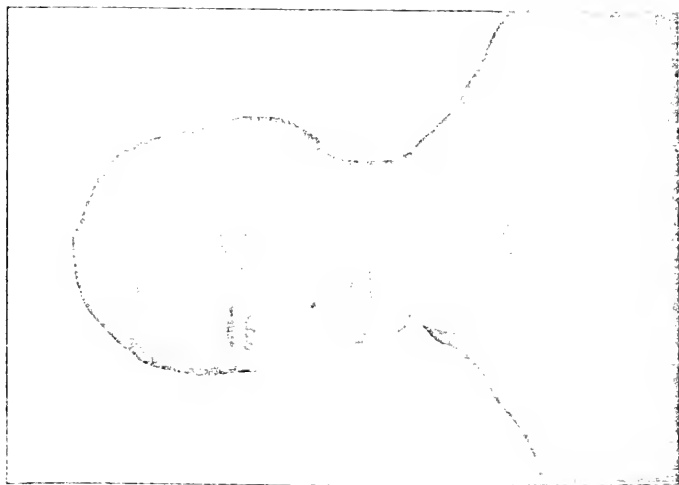


In the imagination of one living further north, a camp in a palm forest would seem to be an Eden. The fact is that "Tampa" soon became only a polite term for a place with a much warmer climate. Without question it was a most unfavorable location. The scraggly palm trees overran everything and, for the first few days, little else was done but to clear away the obnoxious growth. The ground, it seems, had been partially cleared some time before by burning the undergrowth. Thus the fine dry sand had become similar to crushed charcoal and the men found it next to impossible to keep clean.

However, there was one saving feature about the camp. The clear, blue surface of Tampa Bay could be seen stretching far away to the Gulf and the bathing and fishing were fine. The soldiers passed many hours, while off duty, watching the big transports that rode at anchor out in the bay. At night their signal search-lights could be seen flashing, now this way and now that, across the water.

All sorts of curious specimens of animal and plant life were picked up on the beach. There were innumerable star-fish and jelly-fish and many kinds of sea-weeds and grasses. The most curious creatures were the fiddler crabs, with their arms twice as long as their bodies. Captain Margedant said that the crabs could run in any direction without turning around, but that they seemed





SERGEANT JACOB ROLL.



SERGEANT CHARLES E. ROSS.



to prefer to run sideways. They were often so thick on the beach, he said, that on approaching, you could hear them scurrying away.

On its arrival at Port Tampa City, the First Regiment had been transferred from the Sixth to the Fifth Army Corps under General Shafter. The First Ohio and 157th Indiana troops, which went into camp at the same time, soon became the nucleus of the greatest concentration of troops since the Civil War. Every known branch of the service, from the red-coated artillery and yellow cavalry men to the colored United States Regulars, soon came to be represented. There were also the engineer corps and sailors and marines from the transports. Here war seemed more a reality than at Chickamauga. Preparations to send expeditions to Cuba or Porto Rico were continually going on and, taking place right before the eyes of the soldiers, naturally kept their excitement at a high pitch. Who knew but that they themselves, might be included in one of these expeditions?

Several days passed, the troops making all kinds of surmises, but no news came from the War Department. On Tuesday, June 6th, however, something happened. "Pack baggage and move aboard the transports" came the command from the War Department. To add to the excitement, the transports were to embark under sealed orders and no one knew whither they were going.





Whether it would be to Cuba or Porto Rico it undoubtedly meant a taste of real war, sooner or later. The men grew serious thinking of this. Hurried letters were written to home-folks and, with the news spread abroad by the newspapers, the excitement in Hamilton was nearly as great as in camp. The boys were eager to go, but, at home there was dread and anxiety; but it was with the expectation of meeting the foe, face to face, that the boys had enlisted and the sacrificing mothers and fathers were strong to meet war's demands.

Horses and baggage were put on board the transports; the troops, Company K among them, remaining on shore for the night. They were to board the transports on the morrow. But morning came and dragged itself away and the men still rested on their arms. A second day passed, but still no change of orders. Meanwhile regiment after regiment of other troops arrived at the docks and were put on board the ships.

Hope ebbed away with the coming of the third morning, when orders to return to camp were received. It was the plan of the War Department to send only regulars on the first expedition. Two regiments of volunteers were allowed to go, however, being already on board transports out in the bay. Had the First Regiment gone aboard at night, instead of waiting for morning, it would undoubtedly have been included in the expedition. Fortunate that it was not. The horrors of the Santiago cam-



paign would have been all too familiar in Hamilton, where hearts would still be aching for the lost ones.

Longingly, though, and with the keenest disappointment, the First Regiment boys watched, from the shore, the departure of the expedition. All afternoon of the 13th, the transports lay out in the bay, steam up and the decks lined with soldiers impatient for the start. The big ships kept signalling impetuously back and forth, while two meddlesome little dispatch boats, the "Mascott" and "Olivette," darted about in a fussy way from ship to ship. Just as the sun was sinking beneath the sea, bands of music on the ships began sounding "Retreat." It was a grand moment for the soldiers about to leave, but our boys were filled with longings to be with them. The Regiment was now transferred to the Fourth Army Corps, under command of General Fitzhugh Lee, a Confederate in '61, but now in command of the forces of the same union he had once tried to sever.

The evening before the troops had expected to leave, a beautiful stand of colors was presented to the First Regiment from the citizens of Cincinnati. That evening, after parade formation, Company H was chosen to go after the colors. Headed by the band playing "Dixie", the proud color-bearers soon came marching back, bearing aloft the glorious red, white and blue. Marching down the long line of soldiers, with the banner flying in the breeze, they halted in the center. "Present arms" came



the command, which was obeyed instantly. The buglers sounded "to colors" and Lieutenant Colonel Lovell, representing the citizens of Cincinnati, formally presented the flag to the Regiment, Colonel Hunt responding on behalf of the soldiers.

The collecting of sea-shells and souvenirs of all kinds was a common diversion with the soldiers. Alligator hunting was also a favorite pastime. Sergeant Cox and Private Clyde Sheehan went hunting for "gators" one day and it was afterward reported around camp that Sheehan had shot one monster and tried another, while still another tried Sergeant Cox. Corporal Gerhard caught a fine specimen, measuring nearly two feet in length. An Indiana officer told this story: He said he caught an alligator, put him in a box, nailed strips on the top, and put on two ammunition boxes to hold the slats on. It rained during the night, the box filled with water and Mr. Alligator got out by prying up the slats. Next morning he was found in bed with the captain. Florida snakes once or twice became unexpected bed fellows of the soldiers and were also encountered here and there in the forests. But as this is intended as a strictly authentic history, no mention of the many "snake stories" told by the boys will be made.

On the evening of June 13th, a regular tropical storm passed over camp. Heavy cannonading seemed to be going on in the heavens, and the vivid flashes of light-



# SERGEANT LINT'S FRENCH

# SERGEANT APPLER SIMS





ning drew, momentarily, from the gloom, the sharp outlines of the weirdly flapping tents. The rain fell in torrents and soon the entire camp was flooded. The tents leaked like sieves and their occupants had to be stir themselves to keep cots and other belongings from the wet. During the progress of the storm the soldiers remained huddled together in the dry corners.

Many of the companies of the Regiment, before leaving home, had not been recruited to the full war standing of 106 men each. Company E's muster roll contained but seventy-two names, including the officers, leaving a deficiency of thirty-four men. In consequence, the next movement, which gave the soldiers renewed hope of getting to see some actual warfare, was the sending of a detail of officers to Cincinnati, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Paul Millikin, to secure recruits. The detail left camp June 17th and, immediately upon arrival at Cincinnati, established a recruiting office in the Pike Building. Captain W. C. Margedant, as president of the Citizens' War Committee, took charge of a branch office in Hamilton. In the course of two weeks he had received a score or more of applicants and sent them to the main office at Cincinnati for physical examination and enlistment. A number of other Hamilton men enlisted at Cincinnati without first applying to Captain Margedant.

Recruits could not be promised assignment to their home companies, all assignments being made on arriving



at camp. This uncertainty doubtless kept a number of men from enlisting, as they naturally preferred to try the fortunes of war with their home companies rather than among the strangers of another company, or perhaps even of another regiment.

As the enlistment of men proceeded, they were sent south in squads. Thirteen men for Company E arrived at Tampa, June 25th. Five more reported later, but were distributed among the other companies of the Regiment for the reason that Company E, although its muster roll was by no means complete, contained more names than that of any other company, and it was desired to equalize the number as far as possible. The raw recruits, or "Rookies", as their comrades dubbed them, were put through drill and other manoeuvres until they had attained the proficiency of veterans.

About this time news came that the regiment was to be included in an expedition to Porto Rico. Lieutenant Colonel Millikin and his officers were recalled and further recruiting was prevented, although the desired number of men had not been secured. Company E had ninety-six men, the largest company roster in the Regiment.

Company E was detailed for provost guard duty at Port Tampa City, June 26th, and the boys found the work no sham. The boys of the Third Brigade had just received their pay and seemed to think that there was



but one place at which to spend it--the "Green Goods Saloon." Not a little disturbance naturally resulted. Sergeant Ross, Corporal Gerhard, and Privates Cook, Hyman, Jones, Schenck, and Engler had charge of this place and were successful in sending the rioters "to quarters." The citizens of Port Tampa City seemed greatly pleased with the provost guard that day and complimented it quite freely.

Will Golden, a Hamilton boy, had followed Company E from Chickamauga and enlisted in the ranks July 1st. He and Clyde Sheehan arrived together at Port Tampa City, and Sheehan, the same day that his comrade enlisted in Company E, joined the wagon train.

The boys learned that there were ups and downs in camp life as in every thing else. On the afternoon of July 1st, they turned out for target practice and, while returning and still a mile from camp, were caught in an awful storm. They had learned to accept such trials as a part of it all, but they were a sorry looking set of soldiers when they reached camp. There must have been a superabundance of mud along the way for, next morning, the boys were kept busy cleaning up. While they were thus engaged the call to arms was sounded. It was the first time that the boys of Company E had heard the call and their excitement rose high, not even the officers knowing whether it was real or sham. They were considerably handicapped by their work of cleaning



up for general inspection but they behaved admirably and made splendid time. Company E was the first company on the field, arriving there just five minutes after the call was sounded. It was eleven and one-half minutes before the entire Regiment was on the field, ready for action.

The boys did not have much money with which to celebrate the Fourth of July. They scarcely knew that it was a holiday except that in the evening a few rockets were sent up at Port Tampa. It was said that this was the first time, since '61, that they had made any attempt in the South at celebrating the day, and the attempt, though meant well, was almost a failure, as they did not succeed in making a half respectable noise.

On the 8th of July the boys moved into their new camp. There had been so many heavy rains that the condition of the old camp had become almost unendurable and it was decided to change the position a few rods. This gave the boys a great deal of extra work, cutting down palms and clearing up generally.

The day after moving camp they were given a vivid picture of the awfulness of war. All of the wounded of Shafter's army who were able to be moved were brought into camp, preparatory to being transported to the different hospitals. The sight of their poor, maimed bodies was something dreadful and the stories they told were most pitiful. The loss of the officers at Santiago was so







SERGEANT THOMAS CARROLL.



COLONEL C. B. HUNT.  
Commanding the First Regiment O. V. I. in the Field.



great that the wounded survivors advised the boys in camp at Tampa to take off their stripes and not to carry officer's swords.

On the evening of July 16th, the "Gussie" left for Santiago de Cuba. Clyde Sheehan, who was going to serve as teamster, was on board. Company E made up a handsome purse for him, which was presented by Sergeant Linus French, on the Sunday morning before the "Gussie" started. Sheehan seemed to enjoy the trip very much. He said the Gulf was a little rough, but, for all that, he had no meals to throw away.

While in camp here at Tampa the sand got into the rations and the boys did not exactly relish it. One of them said he would not have minded it had it been all in the pie, but he didn't see why it could not be kept out of the meat. The nerve straining effort to get the nation's troops prepared and off to the front afforded some excuse for the neglect of those soldiers who were already in the field; but, after the first excitement, it is strange that the conditions in the camps became no better. Necessary supplies of various kinds often would not arrive until weeks after they had been ordered. Hundreds of recruits were left without uniforms or equipment. The commissary stores were sometimes delayed on the road for weeks, and, now and then, those that did arrive were found to be too stale and rotten for use. Captain Surgeon Twitchell, after inspecting the rations issued to the First Ohio,



August 22nd, recommended that they be destroyed. The following sample menu, which seems to be somewhat of a departure from the usual fare of "hardtack and bacon," was sent home by Sergeant Linus French:

	Bean Soup	
Roast Beef		Spuds
Punk		Hardtack
Coffee		Water

NOTE:—The punk is served only once a week.

After six long weeks in camp at Port Tampa City the boys siezed eagerly upon the least hint of a change. Thus it was that they were in high spirits when camp was broken on the morning of July 28th. No one knew where they were going, but they were grateful for any change. It had been rumored that they were to go into camp at Ferrindina. Some thought that Newport News would be the next camping ground, while others even thought that they were to be sent home. The entire First Regiment struck camp at 2 p. m., but it was 9:45 that night before all had left the old ground. Before leaving, Captain Margedant had Abraham Barnes, who was very ill with fever, sent to the hospital at Fort Thomas.

The boys of Company M lay around in the sun until evening, when their section of the train pulled in and they were assigned to their places. The train consisted of ordinary day coaches and the men, with all their equipments, were put two in a seat. It was nine o'clock be-





FIFTH ARMY CORPS, UNDER GENERAL SHARTER, ENBARKING FOR SANTIAGO, JUNE 1914





fore they were started. Some left their cramped positions in the seats and stretched themselves at full length in the aisles, trying to make themselves comfortable for the night. An accident occurred to the engine at about 4 o'clock in the morning and it was 8 o'clock before another engine was secured. When the breakdown occurred Port Tampa City had been left seventy four miles in the rear; and "this was far enough to change the surroundings as well as the humor of the boys," as Sergeant Ross said, "for they had been cooped up in a hot camp, surrounded by innumerable palmettoes, so that the sight of green foliage, of forests and fields of growing crops, coupled with great draughts of God's pure air, had an exhilarating influence on both health and spirits."

Near Floral City the boys were startled by being thrown from their seats. Some one called to them to jump and those who were not near the doors obeyed the command by jumping from the windows. An empty train of passenger coaches had been pulled up onto a switch, but had not yet cleared the track when the engine of the train conveying the soldiers struck the rear end. The engine was badly wrecked and the boys were compelled to wait once more until another engine could be secured. No one was hurt in the wreck save a few who were slightly bruised by jumping from the windows. The delay here was four hours and the boys spent part of the time securing pieces of the wreck for relics.



By this time it was generally known that the new camp was to be at Fernandina. The country they were now passing through was beautiful, but the whole journey seemed one of misfortune. Before reaching Fernandina an engine ran into the train and did quite a great deal of damage although no one was seriously hurt.

The distance between Port Tampa City and Fernandina is only 260 miles, but the boys were thirty-six hours on the road. They arrived at Fernandina too late to go into camp, so they remained on the train until morning.



## CHAPTER IV.

### COMPANY E TAKES PRISONERS.



NO more we see Company E in a new camp. In the light of early morning, as the soldiers took possession of their prospective camp ground, they could see at least half a dozen mist-crowned hills, dotted all over with the tents of the troops already in camp. Less than a mile to the south rose, tall and majestic, the Amelia Light-house. The Atlantic Ocean stretched far away to the horizon, where it mingled with the blue mists. On the west, about a mile and a half away, lay Fernandina. With the establishment of a military camp near by, the quiet, sleepy little place, with its four thousand inhabitants, was transformed, in a single day, into a wide-awake and excited community.

Compared with the camp just abandoned, Fernandina was a veritable Eden. Lying, as it did, on the highest ground any where along the coast between



Maine and the Rio Grande and with pretty country all around, there was not a single point of likeness to the camp at Tampa except, perhaps, the sand which prevailed at both places. The only condition lacking (a very important one, however) to make the soldiers perfectly contented was the anxiously awaited order which would take them to the field of battle.

The ground on which the new camp lay is historic. It was here that the American army first placed itself on Spanish soil, before the purchase of Florida from Spain. The soldiers learned, from the tales told by the natives, how the soil had been drenched with human blood in the days of Indian massacre.

The facilities for bathing were as good as any along the coast and every few days the troops were taken down to the beach and given a refreshing plunge in the ocean. There were few mosquitoes here, as compared with the swarms at Tampa, and scarcely any flies and thus the troops were freed from the annoyance of those terrible pests. Refreshing sea breezes tempered the heat of the day and, had it not been for the sandy soil which made marching hard and tiresome, the place would have been an almost ideal camp-ground.

It will be remembered that the work of recruiting the regiment to its full quota had been left incomplete when orders came to go to Cuba. The regiment still lacked nearly two hundred men. It was now thought





CAMP GROUNDS AT FERNANDINA COMPANY IS TENT IN THE DISTANCE



wise to take up the recruiting again and, on July 22nd, Major Thomas was despatched to Cincinnati for that purpose. The recruiting detail consisted of Sergeant Major Chadwick of Company E, Sergeant Marsh of Company A, Private Varlhouse of Company C, and Private Hayward of Company B. They arrived at Cincinnati Saturday evening.

Twenty-two men were needed to fill Company E's quota. Captain W. C. Margedant again offered his services as assistant to the recruiting officers and received a number of applicants whom he took to Cincinnati for examination. Those who passed the examination successfully were sent to Fernandina, arriving there August 1st. Captain Margedant, after looking them over, found them all good men and likely to make equally good soldiers. They could not be uniformed and given their outfits at once, as the quarter-master's department had not yet arrived from Tampa. After a few turns in the "awkward squad" the "rookies" were soon transformed into veterans. They liked the idea of blue uniforms and brass buttons and felt as big as any of them; but the camp life soon became prosy enough and it was well that they enjoyed the novelty while it lasted. The recruits, unaccustomed to the perversity of repeated orders to Cuba and Porto Rico, naturally became somewhat excited every time a fresh rumor struck camp. But they, too, soon grew dubious of all such news and, like the other



soldiers, began to lose all hope of being called into active service.

A few days after getting into the new camp at Fernandina, there was a big brigade drill down on the beach and a grander sight could scarcely be imagined. The troops were drawn up in battle array about a mile and a half from the beach. They then advanced in three lines until the "dunes" were reached. The support and reserve forces were drawn up in firing line and then a charge was made down the beach to the water's edge. Away they went with a wild yell; horses and men moved up hill and down again like a great billow advancing resistlessly toward the beach. Then came the grand review. The brigade moved up the beach several miles and then returned to pass the reviewing officers in the battalion front. It was a grand sight to an onlooker but hard work for the soldiers and many dropped out from exhaustion. In the First Regiment there were but forty-four stragglers and the commanders of Companies A, C, E, and F, which did not lose a man, were complimented on the willingness and endurance of their men.

Pay-day in the army has its sorrows as well as its joys. It invariably brings a series of "good times" and a variety of escapades, the effects of which are not always confined to those who figured in them. The inhabitants of the town nearest camp were sometimes made wrathful recipients of a soldier's over-dose of celebration.



On the afternoon of August 12th, Captain Margedant was out with his men. Suddenly they were startled by piercing shrieks from the direction of an old log cabin, when an old colored woman appeared in the doorway and came running out to the soldiers. In a frenzy of excitement she gave the information that a crowd of drunken soldiers were in her house, destroying everything they could lay their hands on. When the men saw Company E's approach they fled into the forest. The Company was deployed as skirmishers out through the woods in an effort to apprehend the marauders. They were captured after a hot chase through swamps and under-brush. After being identified by the woman they were taken prisoners to camp. Colonel Hunt had them removed to General Carpenter who turned them over to the civil authorities and they were placed in jail at Fernandina. None of them were members of Company E. Captain Margedant was not sure, in bringing the marauders to justice, that he had not overstepped his duty; but the commendation received from General Carpenter put an end to all fears.

In expectation of a speedy settlement of difficulties, many of the troops were preparing to be mustered out of service and sent home. The men were naturally discouraged at the unexpected turn things had taken for, in their estimation, the United States had been altogether too hasty in concluding the war. Uncle Sam might have





given his soldiers at least a fair chance at the enemy, they thought. But when that was seen to be out of the question, the discouraged and disease-stricken soldiers naturally turned their thoughts toward home. While many of the troops were thus impatiently awaiting a muster out, the First Ohio and other regiments stationed at Fernandina were in hopes of being called to do garrison duty in Cuba. When, therefore, orders came, August 20th, transferring the Regiment to the Seventh Army Corps under General Lee and ordering it to report as quickly as possible at Jacksonville, Florida, the spirits of the men naturally rose several degrees.

The next day was Saturday. The entire morning was spent preparing to break camp and, by noon, all was ready for bugle call, when, as if by magic, every tent fell to the ground and all were hastily rolled up and loaded onto the wagons. The boys of the 157th Indiana and 5th Ohio lent a hand with their teams and seventy big army wagons hauled tents and knapsacks to the train. At 3 o'clock the troops bade adieu to the camp at Fernandina and marched to the train. The time from 4 o'clock until 8 o'clock was spent waiting for it to move. After starting, the train got as far as four blocks in one hour. Company E occupied the rear of the second section and was distributed through four cars, so the boys had plenty of room and were enabled to rest better than was usual on such trips.



## CHAPTER V.

### CORPS REVIEW AT JACKSONVILLE.



THE boys awoke next morning, Sunday the 22nd., to find themselves in the outskirts of Jacksonville. After a hearty breakfast, (the menu of which has been preserved by the gourmand of the Company and consisted of coffee, hard tack, two biscuits, and a slice of ham) the march to the new camp was begun. This camp was about three miles from Jacksonville in a grove of young pines and oaks not far from St. John's River. "A thin growth of grass covering the sand," said R. K. Thompson, in a dispatch to the Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, "made it seem quite a charming spot to the devoted sand-clawers of the First." There was the usual delay waiting for tents and camp "Cuba Libre" was not fixed till nearly night.atables being scarce that day, many of the boys enjoyed a good dinner of chicken and other delicacies at nearby negro cabins.



Private Clem Smedley, a Hamilton boy and a member of the First Louisiana Regiment, at that time stationed at Jacksonville, was Company E's first visitor. He shook hands all around and, that evening, Private Hammerle, of Company E, dined with him in his quarters. The boys of Company E ate supper by moonlight, after which a number of them attended a colored church in the vicinity. Thus passed the first day at Jacksonville.

Perhaps one of the most notable days in the camp history of the First Regiment was the Review of the Seventh Army Corps at Jacksonville, August 30th. It was a great day, both for the citizens of Jacksonville and for the soldiers. The city was in gala array and the troops wore their best uniforms. Twenty thousand soldiers marched through the streets of Jacksonville that day, past the cool southern mansions with their high columns and large verandas decorated with beautiful tropical plants. Many a fair countenance beamed with pleasure from some such luxuriant retreat when the columns of the soldiers appeared. As the soldiers approached the receiving stand, where stood General Fitzhugh Lee, Colonel Wm. Jennings Bryan, and other prominent men, the lines became so straight that a bullet might have been shot across the street in front of them without touching a man. The vigorous applause from the reviewing stand told the soldiers that they had done



COMPANY E, FIRST OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

At the time the picture was taken a number of the Company were away from Camp.





their part well. There were cheers now and then for the "Buckeye Braves", but the southerners could not quite forget that they were part of the once hated north.

With the returning home of regiment after regiment of volunteers, little hope of seeing active service remained for the boys of the First. Now that they believed their mustering out would be only a matter of days, the soldiers began to grow dissatisfied and disheartened because of the turn things had taken. A soldier who enlists with the expectation of being of real service to his country, of taking part in the battles and sharing in the glories of war, but who, instead, is forced to spend five long, hard months of camp life awaiting the call to service that never comes, cannot but give way to discouragement. It was little wonder then, that the wildest enthusiasm followed the announcement, on the afternoon of September 2nd, that they were to be mustered out. While the instructions were not official, Colonel Hunt believed that the message would be followed by official notification from Washington, Secretary Alger having said that the soldiers would be sent home.

The First Regiment had been included among the first troops to be sent home, largely as the result of pressure brought to bear upon the War Department by the citizens of Cincinnati who, now that hostilities were nearing a close, felt that their boys were being needlessly exposed to the hardships of camp life. The soldiers, how-



ever, felt that they were being sent home in a most undignified and unmilitary manner and that it made them appear before the world as a body of children clamoring to return to their mother's apron string. The officers were greatly disappointed in being mustered out, at all, but their disappointment did not extend to the men in the ranks, who were wild with delight over the news and expressed themselves by hurraing and singing all the songs they knew.

When the news reached Hamilton that Company E was soon to return home, there was great joy in the city. Preparations were at once begun for a demonstration exceeding that of their farewell in April. The citizens began planning for the biggest, proudest day Hamilton had seen since 1865. The Citizens' Permanent War Committee and the executive board of the Women's Auxiliary War League met in joint session at the Central High School, Monday evening, September 5th. The arrangement for a suitable entertainment was left wholly in charge of committees chosen from the executive boards of the two organizations. The two committees were, from the War League, Miss Carrie Margedant and Mrs. Frank M. Heck; from the Citizens' Committee, Captain W. C. Margedant and S. L. Rose.

By Tuesday, September 13th, all general arrangements for the reception had been made, on the supposition that the boys would reach Hamilton sometime before the



close of the week. It was arranged to have a committee consisting of Mayor Bosch, J. J. McMaken, and D. H. Hensley meet Company E at Cincinnati and then send word to Hamilton of the time of the Company's arrival there. The people were to be notified by the ringing of the fire bells and the blowing of steam whistles. A grand parade was arranged in which all organized bodies and all school children in the city were expected to take part.

In the meantime the boys at Jacksonville were impatiently awaiting official instructions. They had hoped to reach Cincinnati some time during the G. A. R. Encampment there, but they soon ceased to expect this. However, preparations for departure were hastened. All drill and military work were dispensed with and nothing but sentry and guard work was required. Afterwards, when it was learned that they would not be mustered out as soon as they had hoped, the regular drills were resumed.

At retreat call Monday, September 12th, orders were read to the effect that the First Regiment would leave for home the following day. The boys had heard so many reports about their going home that they were almost incredulous when the orders were read. It was welcome news and they could scarcely wait until dismissed to express, in cheers and hurrahs, the joy that filled their hearts. As they broke ranks they ran



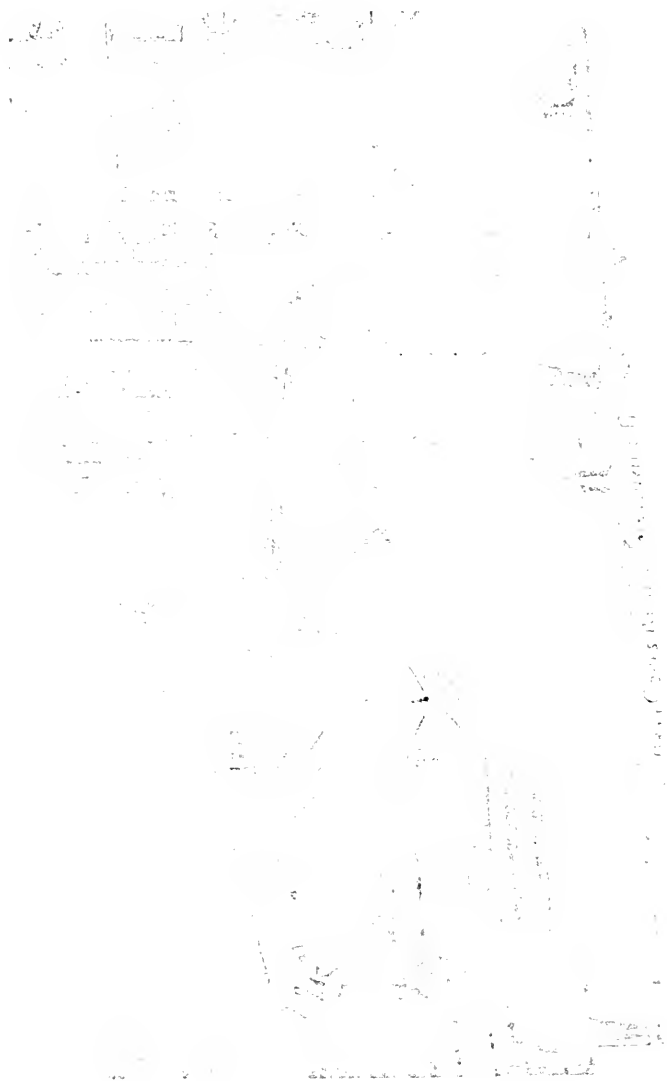
through the Company streets, behaving like boys off for a frolic. They felt that they must jollify in some way and, gathering together all the debris in camp, they had a glorious bonfire.

An excited condition of the mind is better than an alarm clock. Thus it was that the men were up bright and early next morning, some not waiting for the sound of reveille to awaken them. Breakfast was swallowed in haste, after which tents were struck and the men began collecting the rubbish of the camp for bonfires, which were soon burning merrily on every hillside. The soldiers had a merry time of it, which was not particularly pleasing to Colonel Hunt. However, he submitted grinning and said little.

At last everything was in readiness and the men marched to the railroad, a distance of less than a mile. There was some delay but, at length, the baggage was loaded on the first section, which pulled out at five o'clock, leaving the track clear for the other sections. The soldiers swarmed into the train, cheering all the while. Company K was on the fourth and last section. Loud cheers were given for Jacksonville, General Lee, and the glorious state of Ohio. Camp Cuba Libre was left at 6 p. m. The men were not crowded on the trains and everything promised a pleasant trip. Just before starting, the men learned that Cincinnati was preparing to give them a rousing greeting, and three cheers and a







REVIEWING STAND SEVENTH ARMY CORPS REVIEW AT JACKSONVILLE

General Fitzhugh Lee is seen near the center of the Stand



tiger were given for that city and the people who got them mustered out.

Major Hendley, Chief Regimental Surgeon, brought home the sick of the First in a special car. The only Hamilton man among them was Hugh Leroy, who was suffering from malaria and he was able to sit up.

On the morning of the 14th, just before reaching Montgomery, Alabama, the Regiment was delayed several hours by the wreck of some freight cars. Early in the evening the train reached Birmingham, where they stopped for the men to get coffee. Large crowds gathered at the depot and gave them a hearty greeting. The soldiers, however, were too anxious to get home to be greatly interested in what was passing around them, so we will hurry along with them to Cincinnati. They arrived there at 6 o'clock, the next evening September 15th, and were given a royal welcome. After marching through the streets of the city they went to the Armory where they found tables loaded with good things to eat. One of the boys remarked that the bread and butter was the first he had tasted since leaving home.



## CHAPTER VI.

### JOYS OF THE HOME-COMING.



On the morning of September 15th everything about Hamilton was hustle and bustle. The streets and buildings were decorated and every one was anxious to lend a hand toward making the reception of Company E a glorious one. Owing to the delay and uncertainty of the soldiers' arrival the elaborate preparations which had been made to receive them were necessarily changed. Captain A. W. Margedant went to Cincinnati early in the morning to join his Company. As everything seemed to indicate that the Regiment would not reach Cincinnati until late, Captain Margedant thought it would be advisable to keep his company at the Armory there until morning, but the people of Hamilton would not have it so and the Captain was begged to bring them home, no matter how late the time. The grand parade was necessarily abandoned, but a call



was made to the people to assemble at the C., H., & D. station between 6 and 7 o'clock, when the train was expected to arrive. Chief of Police Clair freed young Hamilton from the curfew law, in honor of the occasion, and they enjoyed an off night. More than one ten-year-old veteran remarked that it seemed like old times. Mayor Bosch and the committee of citizens, consisting of J. J. McMaken, J. J. Pater, and D. H. Hensley went to Cincinnati to meet the soldiers. When V. M. C. A. Secretary Munn heard that the Third Regiment, with which he had worked at Fernandina, would also pass through Cincinnati, he hurried preparations and went down. He and Mr. McMaken were both back in time to help receive Company E at this end.

The people began gathering at the station early in the evening. Some came in the afternoon, fearing that, by some chance, they might be cheated out of the reception. By eight o'clock there were fully five thousand people about the station, notwithstanding the disagreeable weather. The City Band kept up a lively strain and every one seemed in good spirits. The people learned early in the evening that they might have to wait several hours, but every one seemed to have an unlimited store of patience. In the ticket office, Captain W. C. Margedant and Chief Clair were busy communicating with Captain A. W. Margedant and the citizens' committee in Cincinnati. Reports were conflicting, but at each







PHOTO BY L. B. V. MMA

August Hammarle - Theodore Beck.  
TWO ROOKIES.



WASHDAY IN CAMP



fresh bit of news the eager crowd inside the station took it up and those nearest the windows communicated it to the throng outside.

Although the time of waiting was long, there was much to keep one interested. Three sections of the Twelfth Minnesota Volunteers passed through at different times during the evening which served to keep the waiting crowd awake and in good spirits. Each section stopped for some little time and treated the crowd to a liberal supply of hardtack.

At length word was received that the train had left Cincinnati and, a short time afterward, three successive roars from Captain Moses Klein's cannon announced that it had reached Glendale. At this the crowd became almost wild with delight.

It was not long now until the train was seen approaching. Slowly pushing its way through the solid mass of humanity, it arrived at the station at exactly 11:16. As the train pulled in, the yard engines, fire-bells, and cannon began a deafening uproar.

The soldiers occupied the last two coaches and a rush was made for these. Mayor Bosch and J. J. Pater were the first to alight from the train. The crowd was so crushing that it was almost impossible for the soldiers to alight or to find room to march after they were on the ground. But, as the train pulled out, the Company fell in behind and moved along the track east of the station.



Such are the stern requirements of a soldier that relatives and friends were able to exchange few words of greeting with the soldiers. One of the men was compelled to march straight past his wife without being able to speak with her.

Those who did not get a position near the soldiers as they passed saw only their hats above the crowd; but that, in itself, was an inspiring sight. The *Hamilton Republican-News* had the following to say about these battered campaign hats:—"They were to be seen in every conceivable attitude of contortion. Some were worn with the brim turned up; some with the brim turned down. Others had the brim turned up in the back and down in front, while still others had the brim turned up in the front and down in the back. Some hats came to a gawky, four-sided peak at the top, to shed the rain; some had a deep fore-and-aft crease in the crown; some were decorated with cotton from Alabama and some were so utterly shapeless, so distorted with bumps, as to be beyond description."

Company A, Ohio Cadets, which had been organized by Captain W. C. Margedant, fell in line in front of Company E and the march to the Armory was begun. The cadets were a big surprise to the people, as this was their first appearance. The Company was composed of thirty-six young boys, all from the First Ward, with W. C. Margedant, Jr., as their Captain. The other officers



were: First Lieutenant, Edwards; Second Lieutenant, Wimmer; and Bugler, Bercaw.

On Henry street the line was fully formed in the following order:

Chief of Police Clair and Captain Zell Shank, with the following officers marching four abreast: Metcalf, Lennahan, Riedel, Bateman, Fisher, Cameron, and Hipplesteiner.

City Band.

Mayor Bosch, J. J. Pater, and Captain W. C. Margedant.

Company A, Ohio Cadets, thirty-six strong; Captain W. C. Margedant Jr., commanding.

Color bearer for Company B, Carl Margedant.

Citizens marching two abreast in the following order: Hon. H. L. Morey and Col. James E. Neal, E. H. Jones and Senator J. J. McMaken, M. O. Burns and C. E. Mason, S. L. Rose and Judge J. F. Neilan and the two young sons of H. L. Morey.

Captain Margedant and the boys of Company B.

The parade marched up Fourth street to Ludlow, from Ludlow to Third, Third to High, High to Second, Second to the Armory. The streets were thronged all along the line of march. Red light was burned on all sides, the people cheered, and the band played "Home Sweet Home" and "A Hot Time in the Old Town





Tonight." At 11:57 the Company entered their first and last camping ground—the armory.

The hall had been cleared and chairs were arranged along the sides. Many who had given up all hope of seeing the boys at the station had gathered early at the Armory. Others ran through side streets from the station and secured places here, so that when the boys arrived the floor of the hall was two-thirds filled. The women of the War League, the reception committee, and as many of the friends of Company E as could find standing room there, occupied the stage.

The Company marched in along the north side of the hall and was brought up in double formation facing the stage. Bugler Elkins then blew "attention" and at the command the soldiers marched toward the center of the hall pressing the crowd back into half the space it had occupied. In the meantime the women of the War Committee had come down from the stage and passed flowers among the soldiers. From the stage Mrs. Maggie Tunnelle presented Captain A. W. Margedant with a wreath of laurel bound with red, white and blue.

The boys were then addressed with kind words of welcome by Mayor Charles Bosch, Hon. H. L. Morey, Col. Jas. E. Neal, and Judge J. F. Neilan in turn. After this Captain W. C. Margedant, was called for. He was lifted to the stage and straightway called for three cheers for Company E. Three times three



were given with a gusto which made the old hall fairly shake on its foundation. Then followed three cheers for the "Star Spangled Banner." Judge Neilan recited the familiar words and the band struck up the strain.

After this the band played "Yankee Doodle" and, amid a deafening uproar, the line of soldiers passed around the south side of the hall and up the stairs to the dressing room where they stacked arms and stored away the impedimenta of the field. That was all. The scenes which followed are not for words to picture; but the mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, wives and sweethearts will never forget the joys of that night.



## CHAPTER VII.

### WAITING FOR THE MUSTER OUT.



THE number of men who came home with Company E was ninety-four. Eighteen or nineteen of them were from Cincinnati and other places in the vicinity. They stayed at the St. Charles or Howard's hotel over night and were given transportation home by the Citizen's Committee next morning. Captain Margedant went to Cincinnati the same day to report for duty, his leave having expired with the return of his Company. He was engaged for some time in straightening up the affairs of the Company.

Private Barnes, who, sick, arrived at Cincinnati a few days before, came home with his Company, returning to the Ft. Thomas hospital next morning. Private Leroy, also sick, came up with the Company as far as Ft. Thomas.



It seemed but proper to the patriotic citizens that the return of "their boys" should be celebrated in some manner sufficiently elaborate to give expression to the city's gladness and joy over the home-coming. Plans were accordingly laid for a glorious public reception at the Court house, to be followed, two evenings later, by a banquet for the boys of Company B, at the Young Men's Christian Association.

The night of the reception, Tuesday, September 20th, was a gala night for old Hamilton. The whole town turned out to do her soldier boys honor. The interior of the Court house, decked for the occasion, in the colors of the flag, was the scene of the festivities. The members of Company B were lined up, single file, along the west wall beneath the rotunda, ready to receive the throngs waiting outside for entrance. The good women of the War League, the gentlemen of the Citizens' Committee, and representatives of the G. A. R. and Sons of Veterans stood on the opposite side.

On the streets and in the court yard had gathered, meanwhile, thousands upon thousands of men, women and children waiting impatiently for an opportunity to greet the heroes of the evening. When all was ready within, the north door of the Court house was flung open and the multitude began to surge in. For a full hour and a quarter the people kept pouring in and, after greeting the soldiers and other members of the receiving





line, passed out of the door on the east. Through it all the parents of the soldier boys looked happy, the sweet-hearts were as proud as could be, and, as for the boys themselves, it is safe to say that they would not have changed places with Dewey.

After at least eight thousand had greeted the soldiers, Mayor C. S. Bosch secured the attention of that part of the throng within hearing of his voice and on behalf of the citizens, addressed to Company E their welcome home. Then followed patriotic recitations by Misses Pearl Murphy, Lillian Berry, and Cora Frechling; the "Star Spangled Banner," sung by Miss Bertha Bubenheim, and several selections by St. Stephen's Church choir. Attorney U. F. Bickley and Judge J. F. Neilan made short addresses and the evening passed away as one of the most brilliant in the history of the city.

Two evenings after this event occurred the second welcoming home of Company E. This time it was the banquet hall that was the scene of the festivities and the women of Hamilton were the hostesses. General Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., Mr. L. B. Mumma, generously offered the use of the Association gymnasium for the occasion and, in fact, the whole institution was turned over to the women of the city and their guests of the evening, the boys in blue.



The tables, covered with linen of snowy whiteness, heaped up with banks of cut flowers, and sparkling with innumerable candelabra, were arranged in the form of the letter E, standing for the Company. Shortly after eight o'clock the banqueters seated themselves, Colonel James E. Neal presiding as toastmaster. Captain Margédant occupied the place of honor at Colonel Neal's right and the members of his Company were ranged along the board with a dozen or more citizens here and there among them. Without any undue ceremony, the boys of Company E "fell to" with a will. They saw no signs of hardtack, let alone worry bacon; and the best thing about it was that "mess" was not ladled out onto tin plates by a greasy cook; but, with the devoted women of the War League flitting about, attending to the soldiers' slightest wishes, little wonder was it that the boys were fairly bewildered by the attentions paid them.

After every thing in sight had been disposed of—for soldiers are not wasteful—the toasts of the evening were given. Toastmaster Neal accepted his duties gracefully and in accordance with the requirements of his office, evoked words of wit and wisdom from many about the banquet board as follows:

"Words of Welcome," O. V. Parrish, president of the Y. M. C. A.

Response, Captain A. W. Margédant of Company E.

"'61 to '98," Hon. H. L. Morey.



Corp. Gerhard Corp. Henninger, Sergt. Cox, Corp. Young, Corp. Howard, Corp. Davis Sergt. Carroll  
Qm Sergt. Bell, Sergt. Ross, 1st Sergt. Sims Sergt. French

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS OF CO. E



"Our Camps," Sergeant C. L. Ross of Company E.

"What Makes a Hero?" Dr. Dan Millikin.

"Rookies," Private Bock of Company F.

"Pills et Powder," Captain Surgeon H. E. Twitchell.

"Ohio's Volunteers," Colonel R. C. McKinney.

"Hardtack and Quinine," Private Manifold, of Company H.

"Great Guns," Lou J. Beauchamp.

"Old War Horses," Judge Wm. S. Giffen.

"Come Again Boys," Y. M. C. A. Secretary, L. B. Mumma.

Impromptus by Wm. Ritchie, Theodore Beeson, and Edgar A. Belden.

The festivities came to a close with the singing of "America," in which all present joined.

Too much cannot be said in praise of the devoted women of the War League who worked long and hard for the success of the banquet. The following committee had it in charge:

Mrs. Maggie Tunnelle, chairman.

First Ward—Misses Helena Ross, Clara Saunders, Sophia Margedant, Hattie Davis, and Mrs. Martin Mason.

Second Ward—Mesdames Delia McKinney, Minerva Ratliff, and John Miller and Misses Eleanore Hume and Kate Romer.





Third Ward—Mesdames Willis Hall, Abram Miller, J. E. Morey, and Wm. Ritchie and Miss Fannie Long.

Fourth Ward—Mesdames Lou Beauchamp, Chas. Bosch, and Jas. T. Campbell and Misses Traber and Clara Fontaine.

Fifth Ward—Mesdames Joseph Rodefer, Fletcher Heath, and George Bock and Misses Elizabeth Bender and Ida Curtis.

Because of accounts to be straightened up, Captain Surgeon Twitchell was kept in the south several days longer than Company E. He came home September 17th. He was not in the best of health, his work among the sick in camp having been enough to keep half a dozen men busy; and a few days after his return he was taken ill with typhoid fever, which confined him to his bed for some time.

Sunday evening, September 25th, special services for Company E were held at the First Reformed Church. The eloquent pastor, Rev. H. E. Jones, preached the sermon, taking for his text Jeremiah 31,8: "A great company returneth hither."

On Sunday, October 9th, occurred the death of Corporal Owen Crane, the son of Attorney Stephen Crane, and a member of the U. S. Regulars, stationed at Rock Island, Illinois. A semi-military burial was given him, the following members of Company E acting as pallbearers: Corporal Gerhard and Privates Harry Sommers,



Arthur Bernard, John S. Durkin and Wm. Golden; Bugler, Albert F. Elkins.

The thirty days' leave which was granted the First Regiment when it left Jacksonville would have expired October 15th, but an additional ten days was allowed to give the officers sufficient time to close up their various accounts. At the expiration of this time Captain Margedant was to take his men to Cincinnati to be mustered out of the volunteer service. The original members of Company E, that is, those who belonged to the Company in the Ohio National Guards, had been merely granted a leave of absence from the Guards during the continuance of the war and immediately on being discharged from the volunteer service that leave would expire. Members of the Company who had enlisted after the outbreak of hostilities would be returned to civil life.

Captain Margedant and Lieutenant Cox went to Cincinnati, October 14th, to turn over the government stores in the possession of the Company. On the morning of October 21st, at 8 o'clock, Company E assembled at the Armory and marched to the C., H., & D. Station, taking the 9:06 train for Cincinnati. Company L, of Middletown, was on the same train. On their arrival at the First Regiment Armory, physical examination was first in order. The method pursued was to have each man fill out a printed blank, setting forth any injuries sustained or diseases contracted while in the service.



After that the men were examined by surgeons. The companies were then mustered out, one by one, Company E's turn not coming until Wednesday, the 26th, on account of the great amount of work connected with the settling up of accounts. There was no great ceremony or formality connected with the mustering out. The men were paid off, one by one, and were then given their discharge papers, after which the Company as a whole was returned to civil life.



## CHAPTER VIII.

## SICKNESS AND DEATH IN THE RANKS.



THE ravages of dread disease did more to wreck the American army than all other causes combined. More soldiers died from the effects of unnecessary exposure to disease or improper treatment after contracting it than were cut down by the enemy's bullets. War is terrible enough in itself; but when the military camps become the breeders of all sorts of disease germs which, in a few weeks, so weaken and disable the troops as to unfit them for any real service, war then becomes awful to contemplate.

The general health of Company E at Chickamauga was very good. During the first two weeks at Tampa it was fair, considering the unusual degree of sickness in the other troops. As the days passed, the bad water, poor food, unsanitary location and condition of camp, and negligence of the soldiers themselves in taking proper





care of their health began to work disastrously. The degree of sickness in the First Ohio became alarming. The germs of malaria seemed to have been sown broadcast among the troops and one after another of the men were sent to the regimental or division hospitals. Company E had no men in the hospital, June 25th, but a week or ten days later the hospital was crowded. It is true that none were serious cases, but that is not the point; all, or nearly all of them might easily have been prevented by proper care. The intensely hot weather which now set in, with frequent rains, augmented the spread of sickness. Dread typhoid, which before had been kept down with tolerable success, now made its appearance in camp. In addition to this, an epidemic of yellow fever was thought to be imminent. At length the alarming conditions were brought to the attention of the War Department. With all possible promptness the troops were moved farther north, out of the fever infested swamps.

The sanitary conditions at Fernandina were better than at Tampa. The medical corps, overworked as they were, became more hopeful at the prospect of speedily ridding the camp of disease. But the fever which many of the soldiers had contracted at Tampa now began to make its appearance and conditions were as bad as ever. Exaggerated accounts of the sickness began to appear in



the newspapers and everywhere there was the greatest and, in many cases, unnecessary anxiety and unrest.

Lieutenant George Ayers was more unfortunate than any of the other officers of the Company. Not in the best physical health when the Company was mustered in at Columbus, he passed the examination with difficulty. While in the field, Lieutenant Ayers sustained a rupture, necessitating his being sent to the division hospital, where he underwent a delicate surgical operation. However, his condition seemed to grow no better and on July 9th his resignation was handed in and accepted. He left for home, July 17th, to the great regret of his comrades. He arrived in Hamilton, July 23rd, and his disappointment on having to leave the service was keen. Such men as Lieutenant Ayers, however, although not made targets for the enemy's bullets, felt the sharper sting of the arrows of disease and gained as honorable a name for courage and patriotism as any of their fallen comrades.

Sergeant Charles E. Ross is one of the number in the Company who contracted typhoid fever at Port Tampa City. From Fernandina he was taken to the hospital at Ft. McPherson, Georgia, August 22nd. On September 5th he was granted a thirty days' furlough and came to his home in Hamilton. He was scarcely able to walk when he arrived and was confined to his bed for some time.



Sergeant Dennis Haungs, of Company I, and Privates Herman Keyes of Company M, and William King and Daniel Bantham, of Company K, were taken to Ft. McPherson at the same time as Sergeant Ross. The two Sergeants and Private Keyes occupied the same quarters there.

Second Lieutenant Charles Cox, while at Tampa, suffered an enlargement of the glands in his left thigh, probably caused by too hard marching, and was sent to the division hospital, July 16th. He arrived at Ft. Thomas, July 20th, on one of the hospital trains, which ran frequently between the north and south. Lieutenant Cox was so far recovered as to be able to come home four days later.

Privates Abraham Barnes and William Reynolds were brought to Ft. Thomas, July 8th. Both had severe cases of typhoid fever, contracted at Tampa. Private Barnes was furloughed, September 20th, after more than two months sickness, but his comrade, Private Reynolds, yielded up his life, August 5th.

The alarming degree of sickness in the camps and consequent overcrowding of the hospitals made it seem advisable to the patriotic citizens of many states to equip and send, at their own expense, hospital trains to bring home as many as possible of the sick soldiers. Ohio was not to be outdone by any of her sister states in this patriotic movement. Largely through the unselfishness of



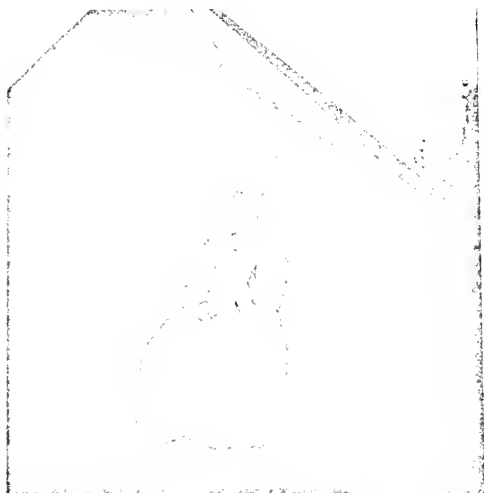


PHOTO BY SER. J. CHAS. RUSSELL

MISS MARIE WEST,

Who nursed several Hamilton boys at Ft. McPherson Hospital.

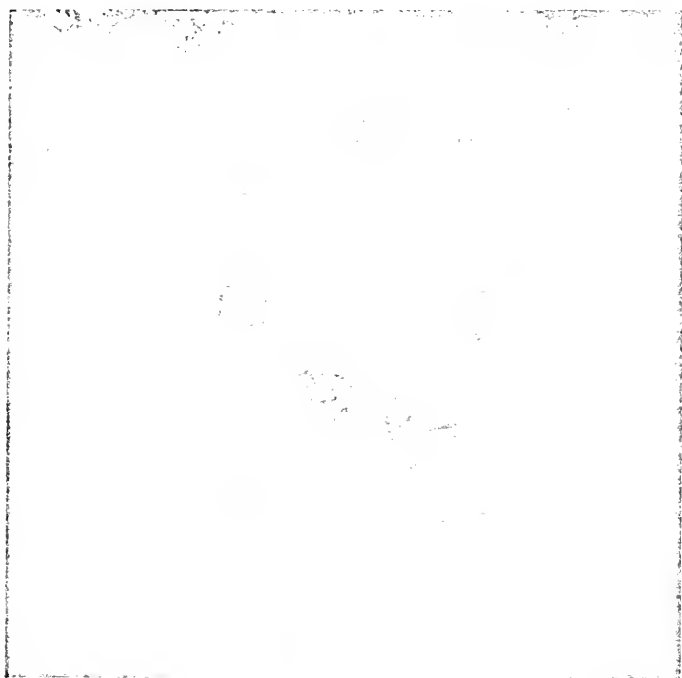


PHOTO BY SER. J. CHAS. RUSSELL

AN ACCOMPANIMENT OF WAR





Governor Bushnell, who offered to pay the expense himself, a train was chartered and equipped. It hurried to the southern camps, whence the skilled nurses tenderly bore away as many of the sick as could safely be moved. At Jacksonville, where the train arrived September 1st, the following members of Company K were taken on board: Musician Amasa McDonald and Privates Wm. Hyman, Leslie Jones and Jos. Werbel. Private Wm. King was picked up at Ft. McPherson, Ga.

On the morning of September 7th, word of the approach of the train was received at Hamilton by Mayor Bosch and preparations were at once made to care for the sick soldiers when they arrived. Mrs. Frank M. Heck, secretary of the Women's War League, happened to be one of the few members of the organization in the city that afternoon and, dropping everything else, she unselfishly devoted her time to the care of the soldiers. Mayor Bosch and Chief of Police Clain were also active in their efforts. Doctors Geo. C. Skinner and H. H. Carter were at the station, ready to offer assistance in case it was needed. The train pulled in at the Panhandle station at 4:15 p. m. The exact time of its arrival was known to only a few, so there were not many people at the station. The faint, sick soldiers, scarcely able to be on their feet, were tenderly taken in charge, led to cabs in waiting and driven to their several homes. All were suffering with malarial fever. Captain Margedant, who



also was suffering with fever, came up on the hospital train with the others, but stopped off a short time at Cincinnati. On his arrival in Hamilton that evening he found none of the family at home, all having gone to Cincinnati to attend the G. A. R. Encampment. When they returned Captain Margedant received the surprised members of his family, instead of their receiving him.

There was joy unalloyed in at least six Hamilton homes that night. After long months of absence the absent one had returned and lay safe, though in sickness, under the home roof. To the weary soldier boys, too, the home coming was very sweet. It is doubtful if ever a place seemed half so dear as did "Home, Sweet Home" that night.

The hospital train was composed of seventeen coaches and a dining car. The coaches were provided with cots along either side, accommodating nearly 250 sick. A number of physicians and Red Cross nurses were on the train, supplied with the necessary medicines and comforts for the patients, who were inexpressively grateful for having been so thoughtfully provided for.



**William Reynolds**  
**Private Co. E, 1st Reg. O. U. I.**  
**Died August 5, 1898.**

Amid the joys of the home coming, silent tears were shed for the gallant soldier boy who gave up his life in his country's service. He, too, had his home coming, even more peaceful and happy, be it trusted, than that of his comrades of the Company.

Private Reynolds died at Ft. Thomas, Ky. The Citizens' Permanent War Committee, of Hamilton, received the sad intelligence and the dead soldier's mother, at Richmond, Ind., was communicated with. In compliance with her wishes, preparations were made to give the son a simple military burial at Ft. Thomas.

Accordingly, on Saturday, August 6th, at 4 o'clock p. m., the impressive services were held. The casket containing the remains was wrapped in the colors for which the young soldier gave his life. At the head was placed the floral emblem, "A Star Within a Crown", sent by the Women's Auxiliary War League of Hamilton. The Rev. Father Vettman, special hospital chaplain, conducted the services according to the rites of the Roman Catholic church, in which faith young Reynolds died. Following the chaplain's address the soldiers' volley was fired, the bugle sounded taps, and the body of the dead soldier was laid to rest, just as the sun went down behind the high Kentucky hills.



**Walter Boyer O'Brian,  
Corporal Co. E, First Regiment O. V. I.  
Died October 27, 1898.**

Corporal Walter O'Brian was one of the original members of Company E. He went south with his Company and shared its experiences all through the service. August 14th, while in camp at Jacksonville, Fla., he was promoted to the rank of corporal.

Corporal O'Brian came home weakened in health. At the termination of the thirty days' furlough he was too sick to accompany his comrades to Cincinnati to be mustered out. The Company was mustered out of the United States service Wednesday morning, October 26th, and the next night the young Corporal was mustered out also; but with him it was out of life's service.


A semi-military burial was given the young soldier Sunday afternoon, October 30th. His comrades of Company E and fellow employes of the Kahn Stove Works attended the funeral in a body. The pall bearers, chosen from the ranks of Company E, were Privates George Howard, Jacob Roll, Hugh Leroy, Wilson Mauiford, Charles Berry, and Elmer Harvey. Rev. G. O. Black, of the Church of Christ, offered prayer at the grave in Greenwood Cemetery, after which taps were sounded by Trumpeter Albert F. Elkins and the body of the young soldier was laid to rest, wrapped in the bosom of Mother Earth.





## CHAPTER IX.

### WHAT PATRIOTIC HEARTS DID AT HOME.

 AMELTON citizens were not very long in showing themselves equal to the duties of war times. To the noble-minded women of the city falls the honor of having taken the first decisive step toward forming an organization, the purpose of which was to render aid both to the soldiers gone to war and to the needy among their families at home. While all honor is due the patriotic men of the city, nowhere could there be found more ready, zealous, and efficient workers than among the women who availed themselves of this opportunity to serve their country. Some gave their time to making articles of use and comfort for the boys in camp; others cared for the needy families of the soldiers, and one noble woman gave her service as a nurse. The words of encouragement, hope, and confidence which the sympathizing women spoke in farewell to the brave men sank



deep in their hearts and gave strength in time of temptation and were an impetus to deeds of valor.

On Monday evening, May 10th, the patriotic women of the city met in the Courthouse assembly room to organize an auxiliary to the Citizen's War Committee, which had been formed temporarily just before the departure of Company E. The organization was composed of between fifty and seventy-five members and became known as the Women's Auxiliary War League.

Any woman could become a member of the League on the payment of twenty-five cents. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Estes G. Rathbone; first vice president, Miss Carrie Margedant; second vice president, Mrs. S. D. Pitton; secretary, Mrs. Martha Stewart; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Frank M. Heck; treasurer, Mrs. S. S. Wintersteen.

On the following morning the officers met at the home of the president, Mrs. Rathbone, and appointed ward committees serving as follows:

First Ward—Chairman, Mrs. Mary E. Murphy; Mesdames Adam Dickey, Martin Mason, Benjamin Sortman, G. Z. Meehling; Misses Sophie Margedant, Clara Margedant, and Clara Saunders.

Second Ward—Chairman, Mrs. Delia McKinney; Mesdames Samuel Sullivan, V. Gilcrest, Emma Sparks, Jas. E. Neal, C. Markt, John Miller, and M. Strauss.



MRS MARTHA STEWART

MRS LUIS G. RABRONI



Third Ward—Chairman, Mrs. A. Miller; Mesdames Maggie L. Tunnelle, John Decker, David Pierce, C. D. Mathes, Mary Pflanzer and Miss Joan Kennedy.

Fourth Ward—Chairman, Mrs. John Neilan; Mesdames Joseph Wempe, Lou J. Beauchamp, Josephine S. Weiler, C. S. Bosch, M. D. Lindley, Max Grabenheimer, Chas. Lipphardt, Emory Skillman, Sam Meyer, C. J. Smith; Miss Florence Ziliox.

Fifth Ward—Chairman, Mrs. W. B. Brown; Mesdames Jos. Rodefer, Levi Rose, Adam Rentschler, Wm. S. Giffen, Philip Held, Jr., W. H. Harr, E. M. Bronson, Geo. Bock, Rebecca Brant; Misses Elizabeth Bender and Susie Vogeliman.

These committees were termed ward relief committees. Their duties were the furnishing of relief to the needy among the families of absent soldiers.

The women aided, in various ways, a large number of families and also extended their beneficent work of relief to many of the soldiers passing through the city. when it was learned that the 157th Indiana Volunteers were to pass through on a certain evening the zealous women hurriedly prepared an abundance of sandwiches and lemonade and waited for the soldiers at the C., H. & D. Station. Midnight came and went but the train did not arrive; but, all undaunted, the heroic women remained there until 4 a. m., when they received the satisfaction of ministering to the voracious appetites of several hun-





dred soldiers. These women deserve to have their names on the Nation's roll of honor.

The one deed of the War League which, more than any other, endeared the noble women to the boys of Company E, was the packing and sending to the Company four large boxes of provisions, with two barrels of vegetables and a keg of pickles. The boxes were packed in the Rathbone building, on Riley street, and contained such eatables as meats, bread, cake, canned goods, jellies, etc. The boxes were shipped Saturday, May 28th, and were received by Company E, as had been appropriately intended, on Memorial day.

The League had arranged to hold a patriotic lawn fete at Ludlow Park, the proceeds to be devoted to the relief work; but the speedy settlement of difficulties between this country and Spain and the return of many troops made it seem unnecessary to carry out the project.

On the return of Company E, the War League "did itself proud" in its elaborate arrangements for the public reception at the Courthouse and the banquet at the Y. M. C. A. Mrs. Maggie Tunnelle, Mrs. Jas. E. Neal and Mrs. C. D. Mathes were appointed to work with the Citizens' Committee in arranging for the reception. Mrs. Tunnelle was made chairman of the committee on banquet. The success of their labors has been told in a preceding chapter.



On the evening of May 14th a number of patriotic citizens met at the office of the superintendent of public schools, S. L. Rose, and organized a Citizens' Permanent War Committee with the following officers: President, Captain W. C. Margedant; first vice president, H. P. Deuscher; second vice president, Chas. Richter; secretary, S. L. Rose; corresponding secretary, James Fitton; treasurer, F. W. Whitaker. The other members of the organization are Aaron Wesco, O. V. Parrish, J. J. McMaken, Wm. E. Brown, Geo. P. Sohngen, Clarence Murphy, Homer Gard, H. L. Morey, Jas. E. Campbell, John Helvey, Peter Schwab, S. D. Fitton, John Neilan, Martin Mason, W. L. Tobey, R. C. McKinney and C. S. Bosch.

The War Committee established the following system of collection of relief funds for the benefit of the soldiers who went to the war and whose families were left in needy circumstances: Voluntary subscriptions were to be received, large enough to cover the expense of the supposed demands upon the citizens for the year 1898—'9. The amounts of the subscriptions were to remain in the hands of the contributors until drawn upon in such sums as might be thought necessary by the Committee. The draft, from time to time, was to be equally divided in proportion to the amounts of the subscriptions.

A soliciting committee was appointed with the following members: James Fitton, chairman; F. W.



Whitaker, J. P. Neilan, Chas. Richter, O. V. Parrish, S. D. Fitton, and Chas. E. Heiser.

The War Committee had in charge the financial part of the relief work, arranging for the demonstrations on the departure and home coming of Company E and frequently furnishing assistance to soldiers passing through the city.

Early in June Mrs. Minor Millikin, mother of Colonel Paul Millikin of the First Regiment and an old Hamilton boy, called on Mrs. E. G. Rathbone and Captain W. C. Mangendant in behalf of the boys of the First Regiment. At her suggestion the War League sent one hundred yards of flannel for bandages, at a cost of \$20.

Mersey Hospital patriotically offered to care for any sick soldiers who might arrive in the city and the self-sacrificing sisters did a great work when numbers of fever stricken boys were taken from the incoming trains and sent to that charitable institution. The Hamilton physicians responded nobly to the demand for prompt medical attendance and volunteered their services free of charge. Altogether they rendered assistance amounting in value to several hundred dollars. Many of the citizens offered their unsolicited assistance to the War League. Thus it was that the "biggest ball game ever played this side of Santiago" was the one at Lindenwald park on the afternoon of July 30th. The city office holders played a game of base ball with the county office



MISS CARRE A. MARGEDANT.



MISS FRANK M. HECK.







holders and were beaten, 15 to 12. An admittance fee of twenty-five cents was charged and the proceeds, \$74.20, went toward the support of the needy families of soldiers.

The players were, for the city, F. E. Weaver, Walter Oliver, Harry Metcalf, John Holzberger, Cliff Kimbrough, Peter A. Clair, C. E. Mason, Ed H. Jones, and W. B. James; for the county, Warren Gard, Clarence Hartkoff, Wilmer Brown, John Maist, John Coakley, Frank Boyd, L. A. Dillon, James P. Snuyers and Ed Antrim.

The local, or John Reilly Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, deserves great credit for the relief work it carried on. The State Regent of the organization is Mrs. Estes G. Rathbone of Hamilton. The Chapter met Tuesday afternoon, June 21st, at the home of the local Regent, Mrs. C. Markt, and decided to take up the work of the National Hospital Corps, which worked under instructions from Surgeon General Sternberg.

The following committees were appointed:

Mrs. C. Markt, chairman; Mrs. Elwood Morey, vice chairman; Mrs. Lou Beauchamp, secretary and treasurer.

Purchasing committee—Mesdames David Pierce, Mary C. Murphy, Chas. Huntington, Chas. Gath, W. L. Tobey and Emma L'Hommedieu.

Transportation committee—Mrs. Estes G. Rathbone.



Cutting and sewing committee—Mesdames Jas. Webster, Jas. Reeder, Henry C. Howells, H. L. Ross, Harrison Leib, John E. Heiser, W. P. Cope, Jos. Doron and John Cornell, Jr.

Distributing Committee—Mesdames Willis Hall and Ed Solingen, Misses Bessie Weaver, Ruth Huntington, Claire Murphy, Clara Webster and Rebecca Craig.

The Chapter met one afternoon every week to sew. Members of the Chapter and also many willing friends did a great deal of sewing and other relief work at their homes. An all day sewing was held in the Rathbone building, on Riley street, at which many women, not members of the Chapter, rendered willing assistance. Boxes of pajamas, hospital shirts, sheets, and pillow cases, to the value of over \$700, were packed and sent by these good women. The first box was sent to Porto Rico on the hospital ship sailing August 1st. It contained the following articles: 70 night shirts, 59 pajamas, 2½ dozen towels, 62 handkerchiefs, 2 dozen pillow slips, 1 dozen combs, 24 dozen safety pins, 3 bolts mosquito netting, 2 hair pillows with pillow slips, 100 bars of soap, 1 sheet, and a roll of old linen. The second box was sent to Ft. Thomas in answer to a call for sheets. It contained 70 sheets, 1 dozen towels, and 2 pillow slips. Many of the articles in these boxes were contributed by the women of the city and the Chapter gratefully acknowledged their receipt.



When the need for experienced nurses became evident the young women all over the country were anxious to take up the work. Hamilton had one representative in this work. Miss Ozella Crist received her orders from Surgeon General Sternberg, Saturday, July 16th, and left the city for Ft. McPherson Hospital the following Monday. She was not forgotten by the women of John Reilly Chapter, D. A. R., who made and sent to her a dozen aprons.

Prominent among the organizations which carried on the war relief work in a manner so worthy of praise, is the Army and Navy League. The Cincinnati branch of this organization placed Mrs. Estes G. Rathbone in charge of the relief work at the C., H. & D. Railroad Station at Cincinnati and at the B. & O. Junction. Temporary hospitals were established, the railroads generously offering parts of the stations for the purpose. Here were to be found nurses, physicians, and helpers waiting to meet the incoming trains. The soldiers passing through were provided with food, medical attendance when necessary, and often money. If any were too feeble to proceed on their way they were conveyed to the Ft. Thomas Hospital or carried by train to Mercy Hospital at Hamilton. The benefit derived by the soldiers from this way side relief may be illustrated by the following incident: As Mrs. Rathbone was waiting for a train at the C., H. & D. Station at Hamilton, she noticed a soldier stretched at



full length in front of the Station with the burning sun beating upon him. He was so sick that his complexion had become yellow. No one would touch him, thinking he had yellow fever. With the assistance of policemen he was taken to Mercy Hospital where it was found that he was suffering with malarial fever. He proved to be Earl McBride of Company E, 157th Indiana Volunteer Infantry. With first class medical attention, careful nursing, and proper food he was soon able to proceed on his way to his home at Delphi, Indiana.

Mrs. Rathbone seemed to be untiring in her efforts in behalf of the soldiers and many a poor, fever-stricken boy in blue has cause to be grateful for her tender ministrations.

The women of the Universalist Church took up the good work and sent to Assistant Surgeon Twitchell a plentiful supply of towels, handkerchiefs, pajamas, nightshirts, and bed linen for the use and comfort of the boys of Company E.

Mrs. Willis E. Hall, as treasurer of the Society of Colonial Dames in Ohio, was also connected with army relief work. This Society agreed to furnish to the Surgeon General whatever on the hospital ships was needed for which no money had been appropriated.

In speaking of army relief work in Hamilton we must not neglect mentioning the Boys' War League, organized May 25th. The officers were: President,





MRS. S. D. ELLIOT

MRS. S. D. ELLIOT



Fred Rentschler; vice president, Estes G. Rathbone, Jr.; secretary and treasurer, Gordon Rentschler. The other boys were Will and George Driver, Malcolm and Donald Bronson, Dan and George Skinner, Tom Wesco, Allen Andrews, Jr., Howard Dickinson, Russel and Gardner Smith, Carlisle Earhart, Donald Fitton, Herbert Harr, Ray Quinn, and Howard Sloneker.

The boys were energetic workers and gave a liberal contribution to a large box sent to Company E. At a meeting called to decide what they should put in the box the boys suggested various appropriate delicacies and pledged themselves to supply them. While these matters were under discussion Allen Andrews, Jr., rose and said, "Mr. President, there's one thing that hasn't been suggested that I like best of anything and I know the soldiers will look for some in the box and I move we send 'em some—and it's strawberry shortcake with cream sauce."

The members of these and other organizations and all who in any way contributed to the lightening of even one soldier's burdens may look back upon their work with satisfaction, for they have the Master's words, "Whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these a cup of cold water shall in no wise lose his reward."



## CHAPTER X.

## OFFICERS AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.



CAPTAIN A. W. MARGEDANT—The gallant commander of Company E, was one of the most popular commanders in the Regiment. He has seen a number of years of military service and is a thorough tactician and disciplinarian. Captain Margedant joined the Ohio National Guards as a private, January 4, 1882. His soldierly qualities made inevitable speedy promotions through the ranks of corporal, sergeant, second lieutenant, and first lieutenant. He was raised from second to first lieutenant, January 21, 1889. Lieutenant Margedant held this rank until May 11, 1896, when he was commissioned captain commanding Company E. Nothing less than real soldierly ability could have thus carried him through all the ranks, from the lowest to the highest in the Company. When the war broke out Captain Margedant was indefatigable in his efforts to have his



Company called into service. May 7, 1898, he was mustered into the volunteer service as Captain of Company E, First Volunteer Infantry. He would have led his men bravely in the fight, had the service of the troops been needed. After Company E was mustered out of the volunteer service it was returned to its former place in the Guards, Captain Margedant resuming command.

LIEUTENANT GEORGE AYERS—Became a private in Company E, Ohio National Guards, August 29, 1887. His fine soldierly qualities were soon recognized and he was made corporal, August 30, 1890. He was discharged, August 30, 1893, at the end of his term of enlistment; but a soldier by instinct, Corporal Ayers re-enlisted, September 30, 1893, after a month of civil life. He was discharged, September 4, 1894, but re-enlisted for the second time, November 12th of the same year. He rose from corporal to sergeant; on January 22, 1895, was promoted to the rank of second lieutenant; and, May 11, 1896, he received a commission as lieutenant. At the outbreak of the war, Lieutenant Ayers went south with company E. He became ill while in camp at Tampa, had a surgical operation performed in the hospital, but with little relief, and was forced to tender his resignation, July 18, 1898.

LIEUTENANT OLIVER P. BRANCH—Became a private in Company E, Ohio National Guards, January 4, 1892. He was made corporal, June 11, 1894, and a few months later, October 22, 1894, was promoted to the rank of





sergeant. A thorough tactician, Sergeant Branch was again raised in rank, being made second lieutenant, May 11, 1896. He was with Company E all through the service. After the resignation of Lieutenant George Ayers, July 18, 1898, Second Lieutenant Branch received a commission to fill the vacancy created. Upon the reorganization of Company E in the Ohio National Guards, Lieutenant Branch resumed his former rank of second lieutenant in the Guards.

LIEUTENANT CHARLES A. COX—Enlisted in Company E as a private, April 17, 1893. He was promoted to corporal, January 17, 1895, and to sergeant, November 10, 1896. He was discharged as sergeant, April 17, 1898, having served his term of enlistment. He re-enlisted at once and, a few days later, when the Company was called, went south with it as sergeant. Lieutenant Branch having succeeded Lieutenant Ayers to the position of first lieutenant, Sergeant Cox was commissioned as second lieutenant, his rank dating from July 21, 1898. Upon the return of the Company he resumed his rank of sergeant in the Guards.

ARTHUR W. SIMS—Enlisted as a private in Company E, June 20, 1892. He was promoted to the rank of corporal and then to the rank of sergeant. He was appointed first sergeant, October 11, 1896. He received his discharge at the end of his enlistment, June 21, 1897.



He re-enlisted on the same day and went with his Company on the breaking out of the war.

THOMAS P. CARROLL—Enlisted in Company E, August 6, 1894. He was promoted to the rank of corporal and then to that of sergeant, both in 1896.

JACOB M. ROLL—Enlisted in Company E, December 10, 1894. He was made corporal early in 1896 and, on October 11th of the same year, was made sergeant. He was appointed quartermaster sergeant, June 10, 1897.

CHARLES L. ROSS—Enlisted in Company E, July 30, 1894. He was made corporal, December 10, 1896, and then promoted to the rank of sergeant, October 25, 1898.

LINUS FRENCH—Enlisted in Company E, April 5, 1895. He was made corporal, December 10, 1896, and, on October 25, 1898, was promoted to the rank of sergeant.

SERGEANT MAJOR CHADWICK—Of the First Battalion, First Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, enlisted in Company H, Seventeenth United States Infantry, November 5, 1892. He was one of the Company's musicians and received his discharge, February 4, 1896. He then joined Company E, Ohio National Guards, July 21, 1897, and went south with his Company in the capacity of musician. June 13, 1898, while in camp with his Company at Chickamauga, he received the promotion to Sergeant Major of the First Battalion, his warrant dating back to May 9, 1898.





CAPTAIN, SURGEON H. H. HAYES



SERGEANT MAJOR HARRY CHADWICK



CAPTAIN AND ASSISTANT SURGEON H. E. TWITCHELL.—Was commissioned Assistant Surgeon of Company E, First Regiment, Ohio National Guards, by Gov. Asa Bushnell, July 9, 1893. April 19, 1898, in anticipation of a call to arms, he was ordered to examine members and recruits of Company M, of Hamilton, and Company I, of Middletown. He was continually with the First Regiment in the south, except June 14 and 15, 1898, when he was on special duty with the Second United States Cavalry at Bellers Lake, Florida. September 13th, when the Regiment started home, Captain Twitchell was ordered to remain at Jacksonville several days to complete some record work. He was the only medical officer with the Regiment from July 27, 1898 till August 13, 1898. After five months of faithful work he was mustered out of the volunteer service with the officers of the Regiment.







## CHAPTER XI.

### THE BOYS OF THE FAMOUS SIXTH.



THE world famous Sixth United States Infantry, in whose ranks are many brave Hamilton boys, five of whom participated in that most wonderful of all the battles of the late war, the battle of San Juan Hill, is in itself worthy of a whole volume. But its thrilling history has already been written with the blood that flowed at San Juan and has thus become familiar to the whole world.

The Sixth United States Infantry, at the outbreak of the war, was stationed at Ft. Thomas, Kentucky. It received orders south, April 16th, and left three days later, after a glorious farewell demonstration by the citizens of Cincinnati, Covington, and Newport, which had not its equal even in the Civil War.

The Regiment arrived at Tampa, Friday morning, April 21st. Then followed two weeks of impatient waiting, when, on May 7th, the soldiers, now all in good



spirits, were loaded on the transports bound for Cuba. The Sixth was assigned to the transport ship, Miami, the twin ship of Hobson's Merrimac, sunk in the channel of Santiago. Altogether there were thirty-one transports in the expedition, carrying between 25,000 and 30,000 men.

They lay out in the bay a week and the troops had begun to feel impatient when finally orders came to raise anchor and the big ships filed out of the channel and were off on their mission of war. The Sixth landed at Guasima, Cuba, May 23rd, and went into camp until next morning when they were ordered to the front. From that time until after the surrender of Santiago the story of the Sixth Infantry reads like a romance—a romance in which tragedy plays the principal part.

The five Hamilton boys who, as members of the famous Sixth, fought with it at San Juan, share the fame of their Regiment. But the individual parts they took, the dash and bravery they displayed, which contributed to make the Regiment what it was, is unknown save to their families and friends. The stories they tell are full of the thrilling interest always connected with the battlefield and, as near as possible, we will hear those stories as told by the boys themselves.

#### SERGEANT MAJOR GREEN

Was one of the Hamilton boys at San Juan Hill and his military record shows years of faithful service. He first



SERGEANT MAJOR T. W. GREEN

MICHAEL P. CONNUGHTON



joined the Army at Ft. Thomas, Kentucky, August 19, 1891, becoming a private in Company G, Sixth United States Infantry. February 17, 1892, he was made corporal and in August, 1896, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant. The month following he was made sergeant major and was honorably discharged, August 18, 1896, at the expiration of his term of enlistment. The next day he re-enlisted for three years, but on November 10, 1898, he was discharged by favor, receiving from Brigadier General, United States Volunteers, Harry C. Egbert, a valued testimonial of his conduct and character while in the service, making special mention of his soldierly behavior at the Battle of San Juan Hill, July 1, 1898.

Sergeant Green was in the thick of the fight at San Juan Hill and came through unscratched. He has given an exceedingly interesting account of the battle, which will be given in a slightly abbreviated form.

"The advance on the San Juan Hill was made in the following order: The Sixth in front followed by the Sixteenth Regiment which, in turn, was followed by the New York Volunteers. These latter flunked at the first fire and left the two other Regiments to carry the day. The Sixth got into a jungle where it lost most of its men. There was a frightful hail of shot, not only from the Spanish in front, but also from the stampeded volunteers in the rear. The gallant Sixth cut its way out of this jungle of death at the edge of which, between the Sixth





and the Spanish, ran the San Juan River, shoulder deep; and, on the opposite side, there was a heavy barbed wire fence to be passed.

"Death, by this time, had played frightful havoc in the ranks of this gallant little band; but not a single man quailed. Their password, during all this ordeal, was more emphatic than polite. With clinched jaws and sullen faces these fearless men plunged into the river, scrambled up the steep bank, and, tearing through the cruel barbed wire fence, started up the hill.

"Up to this moment there had been no cheering, but when the charge began every man opened his lungs to their full capacity, even the wounded and dying joining in. The Sixth was now in the zone of death swept by the fire of the overwhelming number of Spanish in front, sheltered by a maze of intrenchments. In some places the hill was so steep that the men had to plant their feet sidewise in order to advance. Every man knew just what was to be done and every man made superhuman efforts to do it to the best of his ability. Up and up went the gallant Fort Thomas boys with brave Lieutenant Ord in the lead. Suddenly there was a lull in the horrible rain of death and San Juan was taken—the Sixth still in front, but closely seconded by the equally gallant Sixteenth.

The colors of these two Regiments had been left to the rear. Those of the Sixth were sent for and



unfurled on the heights and soldiers of other regiments seemed to spring from heaven and earth in the mad rush to reach and greet those colors.

"The story of the battle becomes more interesting when we think of the manner in which the two Regiments advanced. The boys of the Sixth and Sixteenth made rushes on a full headlong run for fifty or a hundred yards. They perceived that the Spanish delivered their fire by volleys. They made their rushes correspond to the interval between these volleys and fell down flat on the ground just as the next volley was hurled at them, which they could see by the vapor of the Mausers. This was what hoodooed the Spaniards, for they thought, as they saw the lines of regulars successively fall, that they were wiping them out of existence.

"As the regulars arose again for another rush the Spaniards thought they were a fresh lot of victims coming to certain destruction and, for a time, seemed to be hilarious over the supposedly great execution they were doing to the Americans. This thing continued for a while; but, as those supposedly fresh victims kept on coming closer, the Spaniards were suddenly struck by panic and fled precipitately, thinking that all America, as they said, was after them. But it was not all America that was after them, but only that same little band of heroes of less than eight hundred men."



## PRIVATE WILLIAM CONLIN,

Another of the Hamilton boys who fought with the Sixth at San Juan, came home from Ft. Thomas, September 26th, on a ten days' leave of absence. Private Conlin told a thrilling story of the battle. Said he, "The charge on San Juan Hill began about 6:30 on the morning of July 1st. The Hill is about as high as the one just west of where the old covered bridge used to be. They told us to shoot whenever we saw anything to shoot at and it kept us pretty busy. The gun barrel got so hot that my left hand became all blistered from holding it." He referred to how the bullets went whistling past, adding that it made one tremble at first, but that a fellow soon got used to it. "They went past a-zing, zing, sounding just like a handful of stones hitting a telegraph wire. The shot and shell sounded like music but I want no more of it. Our Company lost over thirty-five per cent. of its men. They fell to the right and left of me, but I didn't seem to mind it. Some would fall flat after being struck; others would jump up in the air. Nearly all, it seemed, were hit on the left side. We lay in our trenches three days and a night shooting at each other. The closest call I had was when a bullet struck a half inch from my nose, as we were lying in the trenches fighting."



## PRIVATE MICHAEL P. CONNAUGHTON

Enlisted in the Sixth United States Infantry at Ft. Thomas, Kentucky, May 27, 1898. He was in the Santiago campaign and tells many interesting experiences. Referring to the battle of San Juan, he wrote:

"Reveille sounded at 3:30 o'clock next morning, July 1st, and we started for Santiago at 4. We were put on fighting line and were given a rest before going to the front. The blanket rolls were discarded about half a mile from San Juan Hill and we marched forward to take our place in battle. It was a hard fight. The bullets cut the grass all around us but we continued going forward until we reached the San Juan River, which we crossed. It was shoulder deep; but the worst had not yet come. A heavy barbed wire fence had to be cut away, but the gallant Sixth was equal to every emergency. Imagine how, when we saw the Spanish on the Hill, those wires were cut and the charge up the Hill was begun. Captain Kemman of Company E, one of the bravest and coolest men I ever saw, accompanied by sixteen of his men including myself, were the first on the Hill. Other regiments claim that honor for themselves but the Sixth was undoubtedly the first." Private Connaughton said that he stood about three yards from the first soldier killed in the battle, Private Butler of Connaughton's own Company.





## PRIVATE AUGUSTUS KIENZLE

Came with his Regiment from Montauk Point to Ft. Thomas, September 20, 1898. Previous to this he had been confined with typhoid fever in the hospital at Providence, R. I., September 30th, through the efforts of Mrs. Estes G. Rathbone, Private Kienzle, now convalescent, was granted a thirty days' furlough and brought to Mercy Hospital at Hamilton, under orders to remain there at least ten days.

The author of this little volume visited him there the morning after his arrival. Peering into the quiet and secluded medical ward, I saw several forms on the low couches along the wall. "Is Private Kienzle here?" I asked, stepping in.

"I am the man," came the soldierly response from a cot just inside the door. He was raised up from the couch, leaning on his elbow. I sat down in a chair beside him.

"Glad to get home, I suppose?"

"Yes, pretty glad." But, like a true soldier, he was afraid to make it too strong, thinking first of loyalty to his country.

"You were in the thick of the fight at San Juan Hill?"

"Yes," said he and his expression showed how vividly he remembered it in all its terrible details. "I



was right there. I remember one incident especially interesting. A fellow who was lying right beside me went to get up but he was shot in the leg just then and didn't get up. The bullets went "siz," "siz," over us. Yes, it did feel rather uncomfortable," he acknowledged.

"Could you see the men you were shooting at?"

Yes, I shot at eight hundred yards distance most of the time. It was more luck than anything else hitting them. We would shoot from behind trees, bushes, or anything we thought could stop a bullet. The firing began about half-past eleven in the morning and the thing lasted the rest of the day. We were worn out when we got to the top of the Hill and fell back to rest a while."

PRIVATE JACOB MORTON

Arrived home, September 27, 1898. He had been confined at the Ft. Hamilton, New York, Hospital, with typhoid fever, since August 21st, excepting about two weeks, when he was under the care of a rich Brooklyn gentleman who had him brought to his own home and treated by two private physicians. His benefactor secured for Private Morton a thirty days' furlough, dated September 26th, and, soon afterward, the convalescent soldier came home.

Private Morton, as a member of the Sixth, was in the thick of the fight at San Juan Hill. He said that as they charged up the Hill he thought every moment that

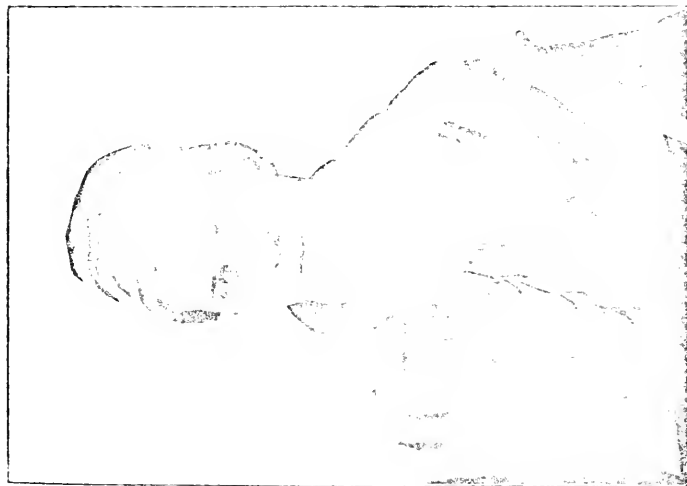


he would go down and his one thought was of his mother as he last saw her crying at the door.

In speaking of the battle, he said: "When we started the charge up the Hill, my partner and I had to cross a creek. At the top of the bank was a wire fence. When we went through I went first and when my partner came through behind me they shot him through the body. I laid him behind a hill and started on. About five hundred yards ahead I met a young fellow named Eck. He was not a soldier but he had been cooking for an officer. He had grabbed a gun and was fighting for his life. He and I were together all the way up the Hill and when we got to the block house on top, we began to shoot through loop-holes which the Spanish had made. I crippled a Spaniard when the orders were given to cease firing.

"I can hardly realize that I have gone through one of the greatest battles ever fought. Just think of sleeping at night out in the cold rain, lying face downward, watching for the crafty Spaniard to show his head above the pits so you could get a shot at him. In the day time, having nothing to eat, we would lie down in the pits and try to sleep and forget we were hungry; but the sun would burn down on us and at last, weary and exhausted, we would fall asleep, only to be awakened in a few moments by the crack of the rifles."









After their arrival at Ft. Thomas, the Hamilton boys with the Sixth made frequent visits home. As marks of their heroism in Cuba, their Hamilton friends presented each of them with beautifully wrought and engraved gold badges. One of the most inspiring of these presentations took place at the Kahn Stove Works, Saturday afternoon, October 1st. Privates Kienzle and Connaughton had been employed here and their fellow workmen took this way of showing their appreciation of the heroism of the two soldiers.

A platform was erected in the molding department and, with the entire interior of the shop, was draped in the national colors. The shop whistles blew at 4:30 p.m. and, soon afterward, the entire working force, with a hundred or so visitors besides, gathered where the presentation was to take place. Those who were given places on the platform were: Privates Kienzle and Connaughton; Mrs. Kienzle and Mrs. Connaughton; Misses Nettie Kienzle and Anna Connaughton; comrades of the Sixth, Jacob Morton and Will Conlin; boys of Company E, George Howard, Elmer Harvey, and Peter Manifold; Private Baumeister, of the Second Kentucky Volunteer Infantry; comrades Kuhn and Koehler of Wetzel-Compton Post, G. A. R.; Messrs. Lazard Kahn, Chas. O'Neill, Harry Moore, superintendent of the works, and Mr. and Mrs. Estes G. Rathbone. Private Kienzle was brought



from Mercy Hospital in a cab and returned the same way after the exercises.

Superintendent Moore acted as chairman and announced the exercises, which occurred in the following order:

Song, "Break the News to Mother," by the Employes' Glee Club, composed of the following members: George Brown, Leonard Bunnell, Chas. Barnagraff, Joseph Manifold, Eugene Reeves, Charles and Frank Stricker.

Address, Lazard Kahn.

Presentation address, Chas. O'Neill.

Presentation of badges to Privates Augustus Kienzle and Michael Connaughton.

Response by each of the heroes.

Remarks by Mrs. Estes G. Rathbone.

Song, "America," by the Glee Club.

The badges were of beautiful design. On the face they bore the name of the soldier to whom presented; also a picture of the famous block-house at San Juan, with the inscription, "San Juan Hill, July 1, 1898." On the reverse side were the words, "Presented at Hamilton, Ohio, by his shop-mates, October 1, 1898." The design of the block-house and hill was originated by Andrew Beegle of Hamilton.

Sergeant Green was presented with a handsome gold medal by a number of his appreciative Hamilton friends.



The presentation took place at the home of Mrs. Green's parents on East Avenue, Saturday evening, October 8th. The beautiful little token was presented to the gallant soldier, with an appropriate speech, by Prosecuting Attorney, Warren Gard.

In testimony of their appreciation of his bravery on the field of battle, the friends of Private Morton presented him with a gold engraved medal, similar to the ones given to Privates Kienzle and Connaughton. The pleasant event occurred at the Y. M. C. A. rooms, Saturday evening, October 15th, the presentation speech being made by State Representative Bert S. Bartlow.

Private Will Conlin was pleasantly remembered by a number of his fellow employes of the Niles Tool Works, Saturday evening, October 28th. The little company assembled at the Y. M. C. A. parlors and presented Private Conlin with a beautifully engraved gold watch. City Clerk M. O. Burns, made an appropriate little speech accompanying the presentation.



## CHAPTER XII.

### OTHER MEN WHO SAW REAL SERVICE.



URING the late war, wherever there was a battle to be fought, some Hamilton boy always managed to be there to help fight it. Even in the far away Philippines the city was not without a representative. Enyeart Hooven, son of J. C. Hooven, was in the thick of the bloody work at Manila and he tells many a thrilling story of the war as it was carried on in the far east.

In the spring of 1898 Enyeart Hooven was in New York studying music under Savange. He could not well resist the temptation to enlist and, May 18th, joined the John Jacob Astor Mountain Battery of Artillery. June 13th, the Battery left New York for San Francisco, where it was attached to General Merritt's expedition to the Philippines.

July 25th, they arrived off Cavite, aboard the Newport, amidst booming of cannon from Dewey's fleet.





They lay here two days. On the morning of the 27th they were towed in lighters to general headquarters near Manila. There were no docks here and the overloaded vessel sank. Hooven swam ashore and the Battery boys took turns diving for the ammunition.

Their first engagement after being settled in Camp Dewey took place on Sunday night, August 1st. In this battle the honor belongs to the Pennsylvania troops and the Utah Battery.

The real engagement took place on August 13th. On the the previous day the Astor Battery was ordered to move in position for the final engagement. They moved to within two hundred yards of the Spanish lines, where they immediately threw up temporary intrenchments. That night they slept on their arms in a pouring rain. The first gun was fired at 6 o'clock on the morning of the 13th and the return fire of the Spanish was almost immediate. With the small guns, machine guns, and big Krupp guns all in operation it seemed as if hell itself had broken loose. The firing on both sides was kept up about an hour and finally resolved itself into a desultory fire.

Under this fire, the Battery moved their guns into a position in front, but little of anything could be seen on account of the thick underbrush and wilderness in which they were stationed. After twenty minutes they were ordered to fire number one and six guns. Before the



echo had died away they were surprised by a shell from the Spanish lines, which dropped and exploded in their very midst. Two or three were seriously wounded and Hooven, himself, lying within ten feet of where the shell struck, received a few scratches. However, he took his position as gunner and stood by the gun until ordered forward. General McArthur ordered them to drive the Spanish from their intrenchments and the real fighting began when they took two of their guns and charged madly down the road. They captured the first intrenchment and the Astor Battery was practically the victor.

One hundred yards farther on the Spaniards made another stand, but by the time their pursuers reached their position they were in full retreat to Manila. The Battery was in great peril and the gun was so hot that one of the cartridges stuck. Bullets were fairly cutting the air and men were falling on all sides, Senior Sergeant Kremens being among the number. The Spanish saw the dilemma and sounded the charge. The captain of the Battery called, "Follow me, boys," and they ran forward, drawing their revolvers and yelling like mad. American "bull headedness" was now matched against Spanish "honor". One fellow singled out Gunner Hooven and fired point blank at him from a small shack at the side of the road. Hooven fired back at him



several times as the fellow retreated but could not tell whether or not he hit him.

The Battery held its position until the infantry came to its support. At this point it lost three men and fifteen wounded. From here on the Spanish retreated in good order into Manila. The Astor Battery boys followed closely into the city and arrived at their former barracks at 5:30 P. M., having fought eight hours.

General McArthur gave orders that, on account of the valuable service rendered to the United States, the Battery should be regularly stationed at Manila, together with the regular troops.

#### FRED L. DRUMMOND

Enlisted at El Paso, Texas, in the Twenty-Second United States Cavalry. He participated in the Porto Rican campaign and, in a letter home, tells some of his thrilling experiences. In his diary he wrote:

"Land at Port Ponce, Porto Rico, August 6th. While riding to camp meet Clyde Sheehan, of old Hamilton, and have time to say only "hello".

Saturday 13th. "Wake up bright and early and saddle up ready to take the road. The infantry follows in the rear and also the artillery, about 600 yards, so as to be in touch with us. We are always in the lead and move slowly, keeping a sharp watch, as we expect the enemy any moment.



"At last we arrive at Las Marieas. The natives say the Spaniards are two miles away. Good news. We keep on the move very slowly; halt to ask natives where the enemy is, which gives us time to tighten our belts and see if our carbines and pistols are loaded. We move forward once more. Porto Rican guides are in the lead and they say the Spaniards are down in a valley. They wave their hands for us to hurry up and all dismount except three men to hold horses, while each man hurries to get first shot. The Spaniards are on the road and in easy range. Everybody is cool and steady; not one but who is as cool as an old veteran."

"The infantry and artillery are one mile in the rear when we commence firing. We are reinforced by the infantry; the artillery, coming up at the same time, open fire about 300 yards in the rear and pour in the big shells. The Spaniards keep up a steady fire. The infantry are very excited—lots of cowards in the Regiment. The captains have to draw their swords and hit some of the men to get them up on firing line. I never saw such cowards. One fellow sat behind another man and myself and was going to fire over our heads, he was so excited. Spaniards are falling fast. Can see them tumble from their horses and fall into the road. Bullets cut the grass all around us, one taking the finger tip off the man next to me. One came so close to me that I would swear it cut a hair off my head."





## JOHN CUFLEN.

A member of the Eleventh United States Infantry, was in Porto Rico with his Regiment and participated in several important engagements. In a letter to James Manning, of Hamilton, he refers to these engagements and goes on to describe some of the strange customs of the native Porto Ricans. He writes:—

"The people here let the goats, dogs, and hogs sleep in the house with them, or some one will steal them. The house usually lies under the house.

"Here is what a fireman in Mayaguez carries: A machete, pistol, rope, lantern, and an iron hook. They walk around the town looking for fires. One of them found one when I was there and, at every corner, three or four policemen stood and blew whistles for two hours until they awoke every man in town. They ran the hose cart out of the house and let it stand in the street for thirty minutes before starting for the fire.

"The policemen here carry swords three feet long and when they arrest a man they tie his hands behind him—I guess to keep him from stealing the sword.

"They do lots of business in this place, but all the business houses close one hour for dinner, even some of the saloons; and everything is open on Sunday till 3 o'clock in the afternoon. After that only the saloons remain open."



CHARLES STILLMACHER

enlisted, April 2, 1894, at Cincinnati, in Company A, Seventh United States Infantry. He was sent to Ft. Logan, Colorado, where the Regiment was stationed until April 21, 1898. The troops were then sent to Chickamauga and on May 12th to Tampa, Florida. The Regiment was sent to Cuba with General Shafter's expedition, June 14th. The Regiment participated in the Battle of El Caney, July 1st. Says Stillmacher, in describing the battle:

"The Third Brigade, consisting of the Seventh, Twelfth, and Seventeenth Regiments under General Chaffee, were ordered to march on El Caney. It rained during the whole march. We waded through streams waist deep and that night we camped within five miles of El Caney. We slept on our wet blankets without our tents. The next morning, July 1st, we marched about two hours when we came in sight of El Caney and the Spanish outposts and the battle began. We were ordered to throw away our blanket rolls and every impediment but our canteens. The battle opened about 7:30 a. m. and was not over till 4:30 in the afternoon. Not until one of our Company's men was killed did I realize what war meant. All day long we lay in the broiling hot sun and only stubbornness and lots of American grit won us the battle.



"The <sup>7</sup>forts, after we had taken them, looked like slaughter pens. My Company lost five men killed and seven wounded and the Regiment lost forty-eight killed and about 128 wounded.

"The Regiment also participated in the Battle of Santiago, spending a great part of the time before the surrender digging trenches."

September 21st the troops were put aboard the cruiser "Prairie" and sent to Montauk Point, where they remained about two months. Stillmacher obtained a three months furlough in December, 1898, which he spent with his mother in Hamilton.

ROBERT B. HUSTON,

at the outbreak of the war, was Colonel of the First Regiment, Oklahoma National Guards. He resigned this position to accept the Captaincy of Troop D, First United States Volunteer Cavalry, one of the troops composing the famous Rough Riders. This troop was raised by Colonel Wood, who had formerly been President McKinley's private physician.

Captain Huston was first sent with his Troop to San Antonio; then, on to Tampa, arriving there, June 9th. They had been at Tampa less than a week when they were put on board transports, which lay out in the bay for about a week. It might be mentioned that the Sixth United States Infantry was a part of the same expedi-



tion. They arrived at Santiago, June 21st, and, on the 22nd, they landed at a little town called Diaquiri. At 4 p. m., the following day, they started for Siboney, marching until 10:30. Admiral Sampson's fleet had bombarded the town that day and driven out the Spaniards, who were now concealed up in the mountains.

The men bivouaced that night but were started again next morning shortly after sunrise. The brigade was composed of the First Volunteer Cavalry and the First and Tenth Regular Cavalry, commanded by General Young. They divided into two squadrons, one of which took the mountain route and the other marched through the valley. The squadron on the right was commanded by Colonel Theo. Roosevelt, while Captain Huston's Company was one of those composing the squadron on the left. They came upon the Spanish four miles out and the battle commenced at about 8 a. m. The Spanish were concealed in the brush and high grass. Major Brodie commanded the squadron on the left. He was wounded in the battle and Captain Huston then took command. The battle lasted until 11 a. m. The Spaniards were routed and retreated to Santiago, while our men took possession of what had been their greatest stronghold. Captain Huston was again in command of his squadron at San Juan Hill and remained in command all through. In this battle he received a bullet hole through his hat. His two orderlies were standing






near him and one received a bullet hole through his trouser-leg and the other orderly had one limb shattered.

The Rough Riders left Cuba, August 8th, and, on the 15th, arrived at Montauk Point, where, on the 27th, they were mustered out. Captain Huston was appointed paymaster with the rank of major and was stationed at Washington, D. C., until December 1, 1898. He was then ordered to Atlanta, Georgia, being assigned to the Department of the Gulf.



## CHAPTER XIII.

### Y. M. C. A. AND HOSPITAL WORKERS.

T is doubtful if any one thing exerted such an influence for good on the men in the various camps as did the work of the Young Men's Christian Association in its department known as the Army and Navy Christian Commission. The forces for evil prevalent in military camp-life and the lack of conveniences made the work which the Association carried on of untold value and it received the hearty approval of President McKinley and the heads of both the Army and Navy Departments.

Ohio had fourteen secretaries in the field. Mr. L. B. Mumma, General Secretary of the Hamilton Y. M. C. A., was one of those who volunteered, giving up his summer vacation to labor among the soldiers. Mr. Mumma left, July 28th, for Fernandina, Florida, where he was assigned to relieve General Secretary H. K.

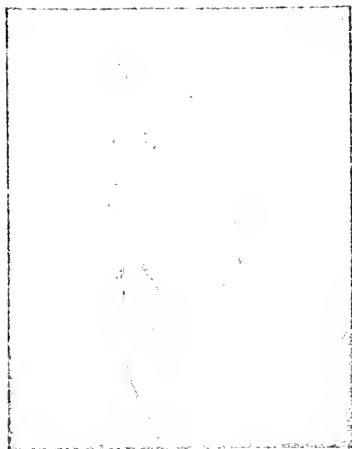


Caskey, of Youngstown, Ohio, in the work with the Third and Fifth Regiments of Ohio Volunteers. After a month in camp here he accompanied the Third Regiment to Huntsville, Alabama, where the work was continued until September 10th, when Mr. Mumma was obliged to return to his secretarial duties at Hamilton.

The nature of the work is pretty generally known. Facilities for correspondence were provided for, something like thirty thousand sheets of letter paper and \$175 worth of postage stamps being provided by Secretary Mumma alone to the Third Regiment at Fernandina. Ice water was provided in place of the impure water of the camp. There were facilities for games and recreation and, for a time, about twenty-five secular and religious papers and magazines of current issues were on file for the benefit of the soldiers, who made constant use of them. Calls on the sick were frequently made and delicacies and light foods sometimes furnished. Bible classes and gospel meetings were held during the week as well as on Sundays.

One evidence of the soldiers' appreciation of the Y. M. C. A. work was a subscription of \$165, raised by the men of this one Regiment. The work was organized with heads for the various departments so that much more was accomplished with the aid of the soldiers themselves than could have been done by one man alone.





GEO. H. MARSHALL.



THIRD CAV. HOSPITAL TENT AT FERNANDINA.





The Y. M. C. A. officers of the Third Regiment were: Lieutenant Z. L. Ramsey, of Company A, President; Musician Judd Palmer, Vice President; Private Julius V. Jones, of Company I, Secretary; Private Charles Heltzer, of Company G, Treasurer; Private M. L. Hughes, of Company D, Chairman Religious Work Committee; Private Frank Bogan, of Company M, Chairman Membership Committee; Private A. T. Billet, of Company A, Chairman Entertainment Committee; Corporal Galligan, of Company K, Superintendent of the Sunday School.

GEORGE H. MARSHALL,

former physical instructor at the Hamilton Y. M. C. A., who numbers many friends among Hamilton people, volunteered, shortly after the outbreak of the war, through the International Medical Missionary Society of New York, as a hospital nurse. He then joined the hospital corps, attached to the regular army, at Columbus, Ohio, July 29th, and was sent to Chickamauga for duty. The work of the hospital attendant is fatiguing in the extreme and during many weeks it was long hours and hard work for Mr. Marshall. The long nights of watching at the bedsides of dying soldiers, the poor and insufficient food, and the lack of proper sleeping accommodations often resulted in the nurses becoming weak enough to be put to bed themselves.

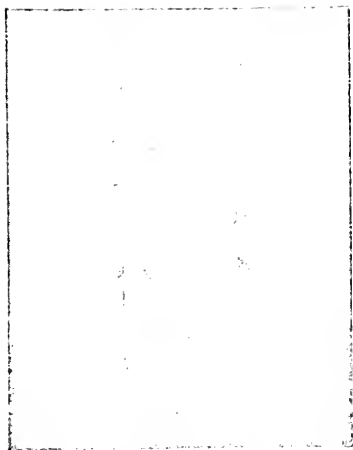


Mr. Marshall all but gave out, but had to bear up as he could not be spared. August 18th, he was relieved from duty and went to the Y. M. C. A. tent attached to the Second Kentucky Regiment, remaining there ten days. Having gained some strength in this time, he went to the diet kitchen to cook and from there went to the special kitchen. September 6th, Mr. Marshall was ordered to the Sternberg Hospital. He tells many pathetic stories of the hospital ward.

One of the men who died at the Hospital had been a great gambler. His last words were, not like the words of Paul, "I have fought a good fight," but were instead, "That is my pot, I win that pot." Another one of the patients asked Mr. Marshall if he had a deck of cards he could loan him. Mr. Marshall told him no, but that he had something that would do him more good; and, putting his hand in his hip pocket, he drew out his Testament. The fellow looked disgusted and said it would not do him any good.

Many of the men seemed to think that cleanliness was as much to be shunned as godliness. One evening Mr. Marshall was at the hydrant taking a bath. A man came along and said: "Pretty cold for a bath." "Yes," Mr. Marshall replied, "but a person should not neglect taking one several times a week while in this work." The man said, "I have not taken a bath while I have





G.E.O. H. MARSHALL



THIRD Q. A. T. HOSPITAL TENT AT FERNANDINA



been here." "How long have you been here?" asked Mr. Marshall. "Three months," was the reply.

Later on Mr. Marshall was advanced to the position of postmaster at Sternberg Hospital, Georgia. November 17th, he was sent, with twenty-six others, to Camp Poland, Knoxville, Tennessee, awaiting orders to be sent to Cuba. Being attached to the regular army, his term of service is three years.

PAUL BROWN,

son of Wm. E. Brown, enlisted as hospital steward in the First Territorial Regiment of Volunteers, July 1, 1898, at Whipple Barracks, Prescott, Arizona. He was mustered into the service, July 9th. When the Regiment came east, he remained at Prescott to care for some patients. He rejoined his Regiment at Camp Hamilton, Lexington, Kentucky, where it had been attached to the Third Brigade, Second Division, First Army Corps, under General Andrews. In November, 1898, he was at home a few days on sick leave.

HERBERT DOTY

is one of the few Hamilton boys who entered the service as members of the hospital corps. Previous to his enlistment, Mr. Doty had served three years as a private in the Ninth New York Infantry. He joined the hospital corps at Ft. Thomas, Kentucky, early in September, 1898, and was sent to Ponce, Porto Rico, arriving there,





September 27th. From there he went to Coamo, took sick with rheumatism and malaria, and was sent back to Ponce and placed in the hospital. Shortly afterward he was brought back to "God's Country," as the soldiers designate our own beloved land, and became a patient in Joshua Simpson's General Hospital near Fortress Monroe.

RALPH KIRKPATRICK

enlisted, August 4, 1898, in Company I, Fourth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry, at Lexington, Kentucky. He was shortly afterward transferred to the hospital corps, being attached to the Fourth Regular Red Cross Corps at the Second Division Field Hospital near Camp Shipp, Anniston, Alabama. After nursing patients there for some time, he was made an orderly to the head surgeon and, from all reports, he makes an excellent hospital assistant.



## CHAPTER XIV.

### OTHERS AMONG HAMILTON SOLDIERS.



SERGEANT TAYLOR L. BROOKS, a member of Company I, First Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, enlisted at Cincinnati, but is in fact a Hamilton boy.

He and Mrs. Brooks are members of Hamilton Friendship Lodge, No. 1106, Knights and Ladies of Honor.

January 12, 1891, Sergeant Brooks enlisted at Cincinnati in the regular army and was sent to the barracks at Columbus. At the end of four months he was sent to Ft. D. A. Russell, Wyoming, and attached to the Seventeenth United States Infantry. When he enlisted he was under age and, after remaining at Ft. Russell four months, he was honorably discharged.

March 7, 1895, he enlisted in Company I, First Regiment, Ohio National Guards, under Captain Paul Millikin. June 6th of the same year he was promoted to the rank of corporal. In the late war, on May 16th,



he was made sergeant and on July 1st he was advanced to the rank of first sergeant. September 2nd, he received an honorable discharge from the War Department. Sergeant Brooks, while in the field, wrote several finely descriptive letters to the HAMILTON REPUBLICAN-NEWS.

FRED BERK.

Hamilton had one representative in the First Regiment Band—Cornetist Fred Berk. He went to Cincinnati with Company E, April 26th, and remained with the Regiment through its camp life in the south until taken sick at Fernandina, Florida, August 12th. Suffering with typhoid fever, he was removed to the Division Hospital on the 14th and, on the 18th, was taken on the hospital train to Ft. Thomas. He remained six weeks in one of the hospital wards, lingering between life and death. Forced to listen to the ravings and dying groans of the other thirty-one sick men in the ward, it is a wonder that he ever recovered at all. Soldiers, however, perhaps through some beneficent providence, seem to be enabled to go through more than almost anyone else. At any rate, Cornetist Berk pulled through at last and was able to come home, October 5th. He was mustered out with the other members of the First Regiment Band, Wednesday, October 26, 1898.

Cornetist Berk was detailed, a part of the time, as the Band's cook. He tells some secrets now about the



culinary art as carried on in camp that he would not have dared to disclose before. He became adept at turning out pan-cakes without eggs, biscuits without soda and, at the expense of the Band's health, he learned to make rice pudding. In making the pudding it was not thought necessary to heed the seemingly unimportant direction to boil the rice first; and in the boys who partook of that dish detected a suspicion of gravel stones in the pudding they now know what was the trouble.

EVERETT R. WALKER,

at the beginning of the war, was a member of Company E and left with his Company for the front. At Columbus, May 6th, he was transferred to Company L, of Middletown. July 9th, while at Tampa, Private Walker contracted malarial fever, which developed into typhoid, and he was sent, first to the Regimental, and then to the Division Hospital. He became delirious while here and lost all consciousness of his surroundings. He says, "I do not know how long I stayed here or when I was sent away; but when I returned to my right mind I found that I was in a different place. I called a nurse and asked him where I was and he told me that I was at the Ft. Thomas Hospital, in Kentucky. I was greatly surprised to know that I was so far from my Regiment and so near home and at once began coaxing the doctors to let me go home." He was not allowed a furlough, how-





ever, until August 24th and, shortly afterward, was fully recovered in health.

JOHN H. BAUMEISTER

is one of a number of Hamilton boys who became members of the Second Kentucky Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted in Company C, June 28, 1898, at Newport, Kentucky, and was sent at once to Chickamauga. August 13th, the Regiment was sent to Camp Hamilton at Lexington, Kentucky, remaining there four days, when a thirty days' furlough was granted. Private Baumeister spent his furlough at home, reporting at Lexington, October 18th, to be mustered out. That formality occurred on the 29th, his discharge being dated, however, October 31, 1898.

FRED HAUENSTEIN.

Private Baumeister enlisted with another Hamilton boy—Fred Hauenstein. The latter met Baumeister in Cincinnati one day during the period when the enlistment of volunteers was active. "Let's go over to Newport and enlist," said Hauenstein. Baumeister had himself thought seriously of doing this and, naturally, was more than ever ready for it now that he had a comrade. Hauenstein had just ten cents in his pocket, which paid their way across the Newport Bridge. When once across there was no backing out, for they would have to earn at least enough money to pay their way back again.



and, as soldiering seemed about as desirable a way as any of doing it, they enlisted in the employ of Uncle Sam and were straightway sent to Chickamunga.

JOHN SIMS,

a brother of Sergeant Arthur Sims of Company E, enlisted in the Second Kentucky Volunteer Infantry at Newport, Kentucky, June 29, 1898. James Denning, Joseph Archart, and Edward Knox enlisted the same day. Sims entered the ranks of Company C. While in the service he became very sick with fever and, on August 28th, obtained a furlough of forty-eight days, lasting until he was mustered out at Lexington, Kentucky, October 31, 1898.

JOSEPH A. ARCHART

enlisted in Company H, Second Kentucky. He stayed with his Company through all its movements and returned to Lexington, Kentucky, where he was mustered out of service with his comrades.

JAMES DENNING

also enlisted in Company H, Second Kentucky. He was mustered out at Lexington, Kentucky, with the other Hamilton boys. Soon afterward, he re-enlisted in the Twenty-second United States Regulars stationed at a post in Nebraska.

EDWARD KNOX

another member of Company H, Second Kentucky,



contracted fever while in the service and, on September 27th, he received a thirty days furlough. October 31st, with the other Hamilton boys in the Regiment, he was mustered out of service.

JOSEPH C. KOONS

left Hamilton July 12, 1898, and, on the following day, enlisted at Lexington, Kentucky, as a private in Company E, Fourth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry. On September 14th he left with the Regiment for Camp Shipp, Anniston, Alabama.

JAMES ANSHUTZ

was also a member of Company E, Fourth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted at Lexington, Kentucky, the same day with Private Koons. Soon afterward he was promoted to the rank of corporal. On October 31st he arrived home on a thirty days furlough, leaving, November 9th, to rejoin his Regiment.

THEODORE BEESON

was one of the three Hamilton boys in the ranks of the Rough Riders. The two others were Captain Robert B. Huston and George F. Ostrander. Perhaps no troops won such fame for themselves and their leader as did these men under command of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt. Trooper Beeson was not among those who covered themselves with glory in Cuba, but there is no doubt





PHOTOGRAPH BY MURRAY

# FIFTH REGIMENT, O. A. I. CANTON.



PHOTOGRAPH BY MURRAY

# REFRESHMENT STAND AT FERNANDINA.





but that his troop would have distinguished itself had the opportunity been offered.

Trooper Beeson enlisted, about May 1, 1898, at Dayton, in Troop F, First Ohio Volunteer Cavalry. The troop went into camp at Columbus for about nine days. It was then sent to Camp Geo. H. Thomas at Chickamauga. Two months were spent here and, after the equipments had arrived, there was constant drilling, both mounted and on foot, in eager expectation of being called to the front. July 12th, orders came to go to Santiago to reinforce General Shafter. The troops were soon enroute to Tampa, where embarkation to Cuba was to take place, and the men were in the best of spirits because of their evident good luck. But while they were on the road the order was counter-manded and, in bitter disappointment, the troops were sent to Lakeland, Florida. After nine weeks of camp life there Rough Rider Beeson was sent with the troops to Huntsville, Alabama. The suspension of hostilities allowed the troops thirty days furlough, the horses and equipments being turned over to the Government. October 13th, Trooper Beeson reported at Columbus for muster out. The formality occurred, October 22nd, in front of the State House.

GEORGE F. OSTRANDER

enlisted in the First Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, at Cincinnati, June 15, 1898. He left for Chickamauga, the same day, to join his Regiment and remained with it.



in Company G, until near the close of the war, when, on September 2nd, he was furloughed and came home. Before the furlough was out Ostrander's Regiment was sent north, arriving at Cincinnati, September 10th. The Regiment was furloughed until October 13th and Ostrander was given an additional ten days, bringing his time up with that of the Regiment. He went to Columbus at the expiration of his furlough and was mustered out, with the Regiment, October 13th. After the muster out, Ostrander's Company was banqueted by Lieutenant Shellenberger, of Cleveland, and Second Lieutenant Max Fleischmann, of Cincinnati. While in the south Trooper Ostrander wrote several good letters to the Hamilton Republican-News.

CHARLES DWYER,

son of the Hamilton police officer, Andrew Dwyer, is a sergeant in Battery C, First New York Regulars, which, during the war, was stationed at Ft. Moultrie, Sullivan's Island, South Carolina, just opposite old Ft. Sumter. Sergeant Dwyer had been in the army several years before the war broke out. He was formerly corporal and received the appointment as sergeant early in July, 1898.

JOSEPH CRIST,

at the outbreak of the war, was a corporal in Troop M, Seventh Regiment, United States Cavalry. After serving three years in the regular army, Corporal Crist



received an honorable discharge. In the latter part of 1897, he re-enlisted at Ft. Grant, Arizona, in Troop M. He was sent with his Regiment to Huntsville, Alabama, to await orders for service. The cavalry troops were not needed, however, and they remained in camp there during the war.

JOHN O'BRIEN

enlisted with the Sixth Immunes. His Regiment was left to guard the camp at Chickamauga after the other troops had been sent home and was, therefore, the last regiment to leave that famous camp.

CLEMENT D. SMEDLEY, JR.,

enlisted in Company A, First Louisiana Volunteer Infantry, at New Orleans, May 3, 1898. He was mustered into the service on the same day. He was in four different camps. Camp Foster, at New Orleans, was called the "Camp of Heavy Drills." Camp Coppinger, at Mobile, Alabama, was dubbed "Convict Camp," because the officers were so strict with their men. The men did not especially like Camp Miami, at Miami, Florida, and were rejoiced when they were sent to Camp Cuba Libre, at Jacksonville, Florida. The last camp was called the "Camp of Easy Times." Private Smedley was mustered out of the service at Jacksonville, Florida, October 3, 1898.



## GRAFTON S. NORMAN

was Hamilton's only colored soldier in the service during the war. He enlisted with the Eighth Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, at Ft. Thomas, Kentucky, July 22, 1898. In just three days after his enlistment he was made sergeant of Company K and, November 31d, while the Regiment was in camp at Chickamauga, he was again promoted, receiving the appointment of Second Lieutenant. His quick rise from private to second lieutenant is remarkable, and yet it was but natural after the six years' military training which he had received at the Colorado State Agricultural College, where he earned a reputation as a thorough tactician.

## EARLE K. NUTT

enlisted in Company C, First Missouri National Guards, April 14, 1898. When the Regiment was called out, May 4th, it became known as the First Missouri Volunteer Infantry. After nine days in camp at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, the Regiment was mustered into the service of the United States. While in camp at Chickamauga, Private Nutt contracted typhoid fever and on August 12th was removed to the First Division Hospital of the Third Corps. He returned to his Regiment, August 10th, and, ten days later, came home on a thirty days sick furlough. He rejoined his Regiment, September 26th, and on October 31, 1898 was discharged from the service.





## FRANK KRAFT

enlisted in Company D, Third United States Volunteer Engineer Corps, at Jefferson Barracks, near St. Louis, about August 1, 1898. 'The Corps' first camp was Camp Hamilton near Lexington, Kentucky. They were then sent to Camp Farnace at Macon, Georgia. The Engineer Corps was one of the troops ordered to Cuba for garrison duty in November, 1898, being assigned to the town of Trinidad.

## ROBERT BRYER

enlisted in July, 1898, in the 160th Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was in camp with the Regiment at Chickamauga, at Lexington, Kentucky, and at Columbus, Georgia.

PETER SCHMIDT, ED PETERSON, AND CHAS. TROUTMAN enlisted in the Sixth United States Infantry about the middle of July. They joined the Regiment at Montauk point, where it was stationed after returning from Cuba. On September 17th the Sixth left Montauk Point and returned to its old station, Ft. Thomas. It had already been here over the allotted time and on October 24th Lieutenant Colonel Miner received orders to report to the commander of the department of Texas as to the strength and condition of the Regiment and the quartermaster, Lieutenant Schindel, received telegraphic orders to make requisitions for travel rations. Privates Schmidt,



Peterson, and Troutman had returned to Ft. Thomas with the Regiment and they also went with it when it was moved to San Antonio.

JOHN O'BRIEN

at the outbreak of the war, was one of the first to offer his service to his country. Being sent by Wm. C. Margeant to join the First Ohio Volunteer Infantry before the order was issued to fill up to the full number, he was not accepted, whereupon he joined the Sixth Regiment, United States Volunteer Infantry and was made corporal in Company L. Corporal O'Brien is now with his Regiment at Camuy, Porto Rico.

JOHN SMITH

became a member of Company M, which was organized at Cincinnati to help fill up the quota of the First Regiment.

PAUL HUBER

is a member of Mortar Battery F. Seventh Artillery, stationed at Winthrop, Mass.

HENRY W. HUBER

is stationed on the cruiser Michigan, which plies on the Great Lakes.

MORTIMER T. HAWTHORNE

enlisted in Company L, First Ohio Regiment, at Middletown, April 21, 1898, being the first to volunteer in that city. He went South with the Regiment, was taken sick with typhoid fever at Port Tampa City and, July 29th, arrived at the Ft. Thomas Hospital. While with



Clement D. Smedley, U.S. Louisiana Chum  
AN OFF HOUR IN CAMP



the Regiment Hawthorne acted as correspondent for the Middletown Journal. He was a member of Company E, Ohio National Guards, from 1889 to 1891, when he was discharged by Governor Jas. E. Campbell, being a non-resident.

Hamilton stood ready to send another company to the front should circumstances have demanded. A number of the members of the Rifles, a Hamilton military organization, united with other young men to form what became known as Company F, Ohio National Guard Reserves. The Reserves, which were being organized all over the State, were to take the place of the Regular Guards during their absence at the front or in the field.

The Company's Captain was John Williams; First Lieutenant, Frank Boyd; and Second Lieutenant, William Morey. They drilled their men frequently, in expectation of a call, but the only taste of real army life the company was so fortunate—or unfortunate—as to experience was on Sunday, July 10, 1898, when a twenty mile march was made to a neighboring hamlet and return. Rations of hard-tack and bacon, with the usual side dishes, were dealt out and eaten, soldier style, on the road. It was a tired and dusty lot of men that tramped back to town that night and, while some of them said afterward that they were ready to go through the same thing again, there were others who learned that a day's march in the hot sun is not such a picnic after all.





**William Hibner,**

**Sergeant in Co. B, 5th Miss. U. I.**

**Died at Santiago de Cuba, Nov. 5, 1898.**

Hamilton has one brave son who, while in the service of his country, gave up his life in a far away land. William Hibner died of typhoid fever in the United States general hospital at Santiago de Cuba, November 5, 1898. He was all through the Santiago campaign with the Fifth Mississippi Volunteer Infantry, in which he enlisted early in the spring of 1898, at Columbus, Mississippi, where he had been working. He was afterward transferred to Company B and went with his Regiment to Cuba. He was raised to the rank of sergeant. The ravages of disease among the troops were terrible and young Hibner was among the unfortunate.

The last letter received from Sergeant Hibner by his father, John Hibner, was dated August 21, 1898. In that letter he complained that he was not feeling well and that half of the Regiment was in the hospital.

Early in December Mr. Hibner received word of his son's death and the sad news was verified shortly afterward by a letter from Wm. C. Finney, of Logan, Ohio, who was a comrade of Sergeant Hibner in Cuba. Among other things, Mr. Finney wrote: "I am delighted to think that I succeeded in finding you, as I know it is some comfort to you to know that an Ohio boy was with



your son when he died. After he learned I was from Ohio he called me 'brother.' It seemed such an effort for him to speak but he wanted me to talk to him. I told him I had received a box of Cincinnati Enquirers from home the day before and he said he would like to see an Enquirer, but that he could not see good and said he did not think he could close his fingers tight enough to hold a paper. He requested the nurse to get some alcohol and let me rub his arms and hands. That was done, excepting that the nurse did the rubbing. That was in the afternoon. He seemed cheerful, especially after he learned I was from home, and whenever I did anything for him he would thank me with a smile. I was in a deep study about leaving him after he begged me not to leave him, but God relieved me of the embarrassment. He died at 1:30 p. m., Nov. 5th, ward No. 6, cot No. 23, United States General Hospital, (formerly Spanish barracks), Santiago de Cuba."

The official announcement of the death of Sergeant Hibner did not reach his father until December 13th, when preparations to bring home the remains were immediately hastened.



CONDENSED OFFICIAL REPORTS OF THE CITIZENS' PERMANENT WAR COMMITTEE.

HAMILTON, OHIO, January 10, 1899.

*To the Citizens of Hamilton:*

It is with great pleasure and pride that I submit the final report of the activity of the Citizens' Permanent War Committee, the Women's Auxiliary War League, and others, who did their work so nobly and well.

The movement for assisting the soldiers and their families was a spontaneous one of all classes of society. While only a few subscribed to the fund to defray expenses it was not the fault of the people, as the largest number had not been asked. Much has been done in quietness—deeds of true Christian charity which have only been recorded by the angels. While all the ladies of the ward committees have done good work I mention Mesdames Wm. B. Brown, Mary E. Murphy, Delia McKinney, Abram Miller, and John F. Neiben, who have made brilliant records by their practical Christian charity and patriotic zeal.



Wm. C. Margedant.





Prominent among the military organizations formed immediately after the declaration of war was the company of seventy of our best young men who formed, under the leadership of Captain John Williams and Lieutenants Frank Boyd and Will Morey, an organization known as Company B, Ohio National Guard Reserves. Another organization was the Margedant Cadets, consisting of fifty First Ward lads, who were drilled by Wm. C. Margedant, Jr., and who assisted in all the public demonstrations.

To my associates of the Citizens' Permanent War Committee my thanks are due for their untiring interest, activity, and kindness shown. Permit me to specially mention the services rendered by Superintendent S. L. Rose, our secretary, and Mr. Frank Whitaker, our treasurer. Last but not least, permit me to thank the children of our schools who have shown great juvenile patriotism in this war, thereby promoting love of country.

Most respectfully,

WM. C. MARGEDANT, President.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

HAMILTON, OHIO, December 22, 1898.

*To Wm. C. Margedant, President of the Citizens' Permanent War Committee.*

MY DEAR SIR:

I beg to submit the following as a final report of the proceedings of the Citizens' Permanent War Committee.

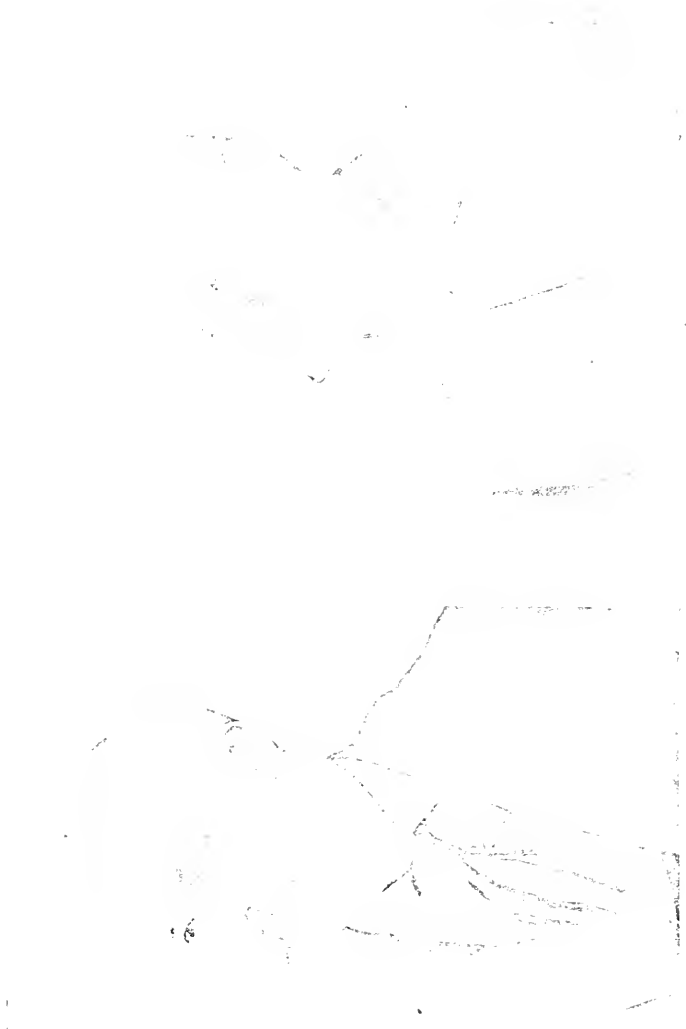


Through the proclamation of his honor, Mayor Charles S. Bosch, there were called together at the City Building at 4 P. M. on April 23, 1898, twenty-five citizens who formed themselves into the Citizens' Permanent War Committee. Officers were chosen and it was determined to appoint a woman's auxiliary committee to assist the general committee in the prosecution of its work. It was further resolved that the Committee should make all necessary preparations for a farewell demonstration to Company K. A temporary soliciting committee was appointed to immediately solicit funds to carry out the proposed farewell demonstration; also a committee to draft a constitution and by-laws.

On Wednesday evening, May 11th, at the call of President W. C. Margedant, the Citizens' Committee met in the office of school Superintendent S. L. Rose. At this meeting a constitution and by-laws were adopted for the government of the organization. The objects of the Committee, as stated in the preamble, were for the purpose of raising contributions of money to be used for the assistance of the families of those from Hamilton who might enlist at the call of the President for volunteers; to aid in the enlistment and recruiting of soldiers; and to care for the families of such enlisted soldiers or sailors.

The preparations made by the committee for the home reception of Company K could not be fully carried







out because of the lateness of the hour of arrival home; however, the boys were given a generous reception both on the evening of September 16th and at the Court-house on the evening of September 20th.

At the meeting of the executive committee on October 3rd thanks were voted to the Women's Auxiliary War League, to the officers and employees of the Miami Valley National Bank, and to the Apollo and City bands for their efficient help. At this meeting a motion was made to reimburse President W. C. Margedant for his actual out-lay in cash money, which was not less than \$50 or \$75, expended in recruiting the Cincinnati and other companies with young men from this city and county. However, President Margedant refused to be reimbursed even to the amount of one cent. The Committee further testifies that whatever of success has been attached to its work of relief, etc. is due in the most part to the untiring energy and enthusiasm of President Margedant.

I take pleasure in incorporating in this brief report a report of the Women's Auxiliary War League.

REPORT OF AUXILIARY WAR LEAGUE.

HAMILTON, OHIO, December 22, 1868.

M<sup>R</sup>. S. L. ROSE,

*Secretary of the Citizens' Permanent War Committee.*

DEAR SIR:—In the absence of our President, Mrs. Estes G. Rathbone, we beg leave to present to you our





report taken from the minutes of the Women's Auxiliary War League

A large number of ladies met in the assembly room of the Court-house on the evening of May 10, 1898, in conformity with the call of the President of the Citizens' Permanent War Committee and organized themselves into a league for the performance of such duties as might be involved upon them during the time of war and danger. Officers were elected, constitution and by-laws adopted, and visiting and relief committees for the various wards appointed.

Among the League's patriotic deeds was the sending of books, magazines, and newspapers to the boys in the various camps, through the kindness of Mrs. Stella Weiler-Taylor. Large boxes and barrels filled with the choicest dairies, meats, bread, cakes, and canned goods were sent South free of all express charges, through the kindness of Mr. Ed. Holbrook, of the C., H., & D., and Mr. Rinearson, of the Queen and Crescent Railroad. Two large boxes of jellies and canned fruits were also sent to the Hospital at Ft. Thomas, where a number of Hamilton boys lay sick. Eighty yards of the best red flannel were sent to the boys of Company H.

The last meeting of the League was held on October 15, 1898. The chairmen presented their itemized reports and reported the expenditure of the following amounts:





JAMES FITTON.



H. P. DELSCHER.



First Ward--Total Expenditures, 1917. \$ 22.00

Second Ward--Not Reported.

Third Ward..... 16.50

Fourth Ward..... 68.00

Fifth Ward..... 174.37

The proceeds of a game of baseball between the City and County officials, turned over to the League, amounted to \$74.20.

Being loath to disband the League, the members decided to continue the organization, subject to the call of the President.

CAROLINE A. MARGEDANT.

First Vice-President.

MRS. FRANK M. PECK.

Corresponding Secretary.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

TO THE WAR FUND OF THE CITIZENS' PERMANENT WAR  
COMMITTEE.

First National Bank - - - \$150

Niles Tool Works Co. - - - 150

Mosler Safe Co. - - - 100

Bentel & Margedant Co. - - - 100

Long & Allstatter Co. - - - 100

Champion Coated Paper Co. - - - 100

Shuler & Benninghofen - - - 100

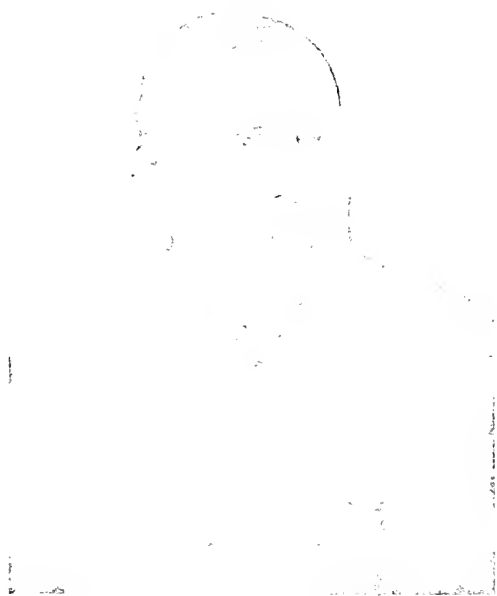
Second National Bank - - - 100



Miami Valley National Bank	-	-	-	100
T. V. Howell & Son	-	-	-	100
F. and L. Kahn & Bros.	-	-	-	100
Hooven, Owens, & Rentschler	-	-	-	100
Jas. K. Cullen	-	-	-	50
R. C. McKinney	-	-	-	50
Black & Clawson Co.	-	-	-	50
A. Fischer Mfg. Co.	-	-	-	50
Henry Frechtling, Sr.	-	-	-	50
Wm. C. Frechtling & Co.	-	-	-	50
Bender Bros. Co.	-	-	-	50
L. P. Clawson	-	-	-	50
American Malting Co.	-	-	-	50
Cincinnati Brewing Co.	-	-	-	50
W. C. Mergedant	-	-	-	25
Martin Mason Brewing Co.	-	-	-	25
Henry Frechtling, Jr.	-	-	-	25
O. V. Parrish	-	-	-	25
J. F. Neilan	-	-	-	25
The H. P. Deucher Co.	-	-	-	25
H. P. Deucher	-	-	-	25
V. Gilcrest	-	-	-	25
Republican Publishing Co.	-	-	-	25
J. L. Walker	-	-	-	25
Krebs & Co.	-	-	-	25
Butler Co. Democrat Co.	-	-	-	25
George P. Solingen	-	-	-	25







CHARLES RICHTER.



Wm. A. Eiber	-	-	-	10
Wright & Howe (The Fair)				10
Seybold & Bonner	-	-	-	10
S. L. Rose	-	-	-	10
Aug. Bauer	-	-	-	10
C. Hos-feld & Son	-	-	-	10
J. M. Shoneker	-	-	-	10
Chris Pabst	-	-	-	10
S. S. Wintersteen	-	-	-	5
C. A. Hencs	-	-	-	5
E. B. Rogers Co.	-	-	-	5
Chas. Mueller	-	-	-	5
Frank P. Richter	-	-	-	5
Aug. Benninghofen	-		3 tons coal	
F. J. Straub & Co.	-		3 tons coal	

The total amount of money subscribed was \$2215.  
Of that amount 30 per cent. was drawn.

The receipts of the Committee were as follows:

On subscriptions .....	\$204.50
Women's Auxiliary War League.....	74.20
Miscellaneous, paid in to the Miami Valley National Bank.....	45.70
	<hr/>
	\$784.40
Expenditures as per bills on file .....	636.25
	<hr/>
	\$148.15

The original orders with attached bills, receipt stubs, check book, bank book, and ledger showing fully item-



ized all receipts and expenditures made by the Committee were submitted to Messrs. E. G. Ruder and Chas. F. Heiser, whom President Mangedant had appointed as auditing committee. The following is the report of said committee:

AUDITING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

CAPT. W. C. MANGEDANT, CHAIRMAN,

*Citizens' Permanent War Committee.*

DEAR SIR:—We, your committee appointed to audit the books of your secretary beg leave to report that we have done so. We find same have been kept in a neat and business-like manner and all funds received and expended properly accounted for.

Very respectfully,

C. F. HEISER.

E. G. RUDER.

In conclusion I desire to say that all books, such as minute books, account books, etc., together with newspaper files, etc., have been deposited in the safe, for such purposes provided, in the Butler County Court-house.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. ROSE, Sec'y.



## BRIEF SKETCH OF THE MILITARY EXPERIENCES OF CAPTAIN W. C. MARGEDANT.

Hamilton owes an everlasting debt of gratitude to Captain W. C. Margedant. Not only did he superintend, with tireless energy, the noble work of the War Committee but, throughout the war, he gave freely and willingly of his time and attention to the wants of many soldiers who, in one way or another, needed a helping hand. Being an old soldier himself Captain Margedant knew well a soldier's needs and ambitions. A brief sketch of his military career in the Civil War is here given.

At the first call of the President of the United States for 30,000 soldiers, April 14, 1861, Wm. C. Margedant organized, on that day, a company of forty-eight volunteers, principally members of a Gymnastic Association of Hamilton. On the same evening he and his company went to Cincinnati to join the Ninth O. V. I. and on the following day Wm. C. Margedant was elected captain. The Regiment soon went to Philippi, West Vir-





ginia, and Captain Margedant remained until the expiration of the three months for which he had enlisted, when he was appointed Topographical Engineer at Buchana, West Virginia, on the staff of General Rosecrans. The Captain participated in the first battles of the War and organized and compiled for portions of West Virginia the first detail topographical maps. In reporting the battle of Rich Mountain and Carnifex Ferry to the President of the United States, General Rosecrans stated that Captain Wm. C. Margedant, Engineer, deserved conspicuous mention for his valuable services as a reconnoitering officer in the face of storms of bullets. After participating in several more battles Captain Margedant was ordered to Wheeling, West Virginia, where he became a member of General Fremont's staff. He took part, under Generals Fremont and Schenck commanding the Army, in all the battles of the Shenandoah Valley and, afterwards, in the Army of the Potomac.

On March 11, 1863, after serving on the staff of General Sigel and, later, with General McLean, Captain Margedant received a special order from the Secretary of War to report to General Rosecrans, by the request of the General, who, at that time, was in command of the Army of the Cumberland at Stone River. After the great battle of Chickamauga Major General Rosecrans reported to the President that Captain Wm. C. Margedant, Acting Topographical Engineer, was on



the field of battle and discharged his duties with zeal and ability.

When Major General Thomas succeeded Major General Rosecrans, Captain Margedant was retained on the personal staff. At the end of his time of service he was retained in the field by the special order of Major General Thomas who was unwilling to lose so energetic and active an assistant.

Captain Margedant remained in the service until late in 1864 when he became very sick and, at his urgent request, was transported North. He took part in thirty-six battles and engagements, from the battles of West Virginia through the Shenandoah Valley, Tennessee, Georgia, and Alabama.

In "The War of the Rebellion, Official Reports and Correspondence, U. S. A.," frequent mention is made of the efficient service rendered by Captain Wm. C. Margedant.



COMPLETE REVIEW  
OF THE  
SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

The war between the United States and Spain began April 21, 1898, that date being named in an act of Congress, passed April 25th, declaring that a state of war existed. Spain issued a declaration of war on April 24th. Hostilities ended with the signing of the protocol by the Secretary of State, for the United States, and by M. Cambon, the French ambassador, acting for Spain, on August 12, 1898. The war lasted 114 days. The principal events during the war and the dates on which they occurred are as follows:

February 15—The United States battleship *Maine* was blown up in the harbor of Havana. According to the report of the court of inquiry, appointed by the United States, the explosion was due to an external mine.

April 20—President McKinley authorized by Congress to intervene in Cuba, using the United States military and naval forces, sent an ultimatum to Spain. The Spanish Minister at once left Washington and the next day the United States Minister had left Madrid.

April 22—A proclamation was issued by the President blockading the principal ports of Cuba. Admiral Sampson's fleet sailed from Key West to blockade ports of Cuba. First gun of the war fired by the gunboat *Nashville*. First prize of the war—the *Buena Ventura*—captured by the *Nashville*.



April 23—President McKinley issued a call for 125,000 volunteers to serve for two years.

April 27—The batteries of Matanzas, Cuba, were shelled by Admiral Sampson's flag-ship, the New York, with the Monitor, Puritan, and cruiser Cincinnati.

April 29—The Spanish fleet, commanded by Admiral Cervera, consisting of the Cristobal Colon, the Almirante Oquendo, the Maria Teresa, the Viscaya, and the Furor, Terror, and Pluton, left the Cape Verde Islands for Cuba.

May 1—Rear Admiral Dewey, commanding the United States Asiatic squadron, destroyed the entire Spanish fleet, consisting of ten vessels, in the Philippines without losing a man.

May 11—The Wilmington, Winslow, and Hudson engaged the Spanish batteries at Cardenas. Ensign Bagley and four of the Winslow's crew were killed. Major-General Wesley Merritt was ordered to the Philippines as military governor.

May 12—A United States fleet, commanded by Rear-Admiral Sampson, bombarded the fortifications of San Juan, Porto Rico.

May 19—Admiral Cervera's fleet reached Santiago de Cuba and, a few days later, was bottled up there by the "Flying Squadron" of Commodore Schley.

May 24—Arrival of the Battleship Oregon at Jupiter, Fla., after a voyage of 13,000 miles from San Francisco.

May 25—President McKinley called for 75,000 more volunteers. Twenty-five hundred United States troops sailed from San Francisco for Manila. Several thousand more followed later.

May 31—The Massachusetts, Iowa, and New Orleans bombarded the fortifications at the mouth of Santiago harbor. They were bombarded again several times after Admiral Sampson took command of the fleet.

June 3—Assistant Naval Constructor Hobson, with seven men, ran the collier Merrimac into Santiago harbor and sunk her in the channel, under fire from the Spanish forts. Hobson and his men were taken prisoners.





June 11—Six hundred marines were landed at Caimanera, Guantánamo bay, where several Americans were killed.

June 12—The Fifth Army Corps, commanded by Brigadier-General Shafter, sailed from Tampa on twenty-nine transports for Santiago, arriving off there, June 24th.

June 13—President McKinley signed the war revenue bill providing for the raising of revenues by a stamp tax and providing for a popular loan issue.

June 21—A Spanish fleet, under Admiral Camara, left Cadiz for the Philippines, but returned after passing through the Suez Canal.

June 22—General Shafter's troops began disembarking at Daiquiri and Siboney, near Santiago.

June 23—Roosevelt's Rough Riders were attacked while advancing towards Santiago; sixteen Americans were killed and forty were wounded before the Spaniards were repulsed.

June 29—General Merritt sailed from San Francisco for the Philippines.

July 1—General Lawton took El Caney near Santiago, and the First Sixth, and Tenth Infantry and Roosevelt's Rough Riders took San Juan after heavy fighting. Official reports gave the American losses as 231 killed and 1,354 wounded and missing.

July 3—Admiral Cervera's squadron made a dash out of Santiago harbor, and every vessel was sunk or disabled by the American fleet. General Shafter demanded the surrender of Santiago. The seizure of Guam, in the Mariana Islands, by the Charleston was reported.

July 6—Lieutenant Hobson and his Merrimack men were exchanged.

July 7—President McKinley signed resolutions adopted by the Senate annexing the Hawaiian Islands to the United States and the Philadelphia was ordered to Honolulu to raise the American flag.

July 17—General Toral, in command of the Spanish troops at Santiago, General Linera's being wounded, surrendered his forces and the eastern portion of the Province of Santiago de Cuba to General Shafter.



July 20—General Leonard R. Wood, formerly colonel of the First Volunteer Cavalry, was appointed military governor of Santiago.

July 25—Through the French Ambassador the Government of Spain asked President McKinley upon what terms he would consent to peace.

July 28—Ponce, the second largest city in Porto Rico, surrendered to General Miles and he was received by the residents with acclamations of joy. Capture of several other towns with little or no fighting.

July 30—President McKinley's statement of the terms on which he would agree to end the war were given to the French Ambassador. The President demanded the independence of Cuba, cession of Porto Rico, and one of the Ladrões to the United States and the retention of Manila by the United States pending the final disposition of the Philippines by a joint commission.

July 31—United States troops engaged the Spaniards at Malate, near Manila, in the Philippines, and repulsed them with some loss on both sides.

August 9—The French Ambassador presented to President McKinley Spain's reply accepting his terms of peace.

August 12—Protocols agreeing as to the preliminaries for a treaty of peace were signed by Secretary Day and the French Ambassador. United States military and naval commanders were ordered to cease hostilities. The blockades of Cuba, Porto Rico, and Manila were lifted.

August 13—Fleet bombards and army assaults Manila and it surrenders.

August 26—United States peace commission named; to be Secretary of State Day, Senators Davis and Frye, and Whitelaw Reid and Justice White.

September 23—President appoints war investigation commission.

October 18—American flag raised over public buildings and forts of Porto Rico.

November 28—Final peace terms agreed to in Paris and the war was ended.















